MONDAY
February 6, 2023

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
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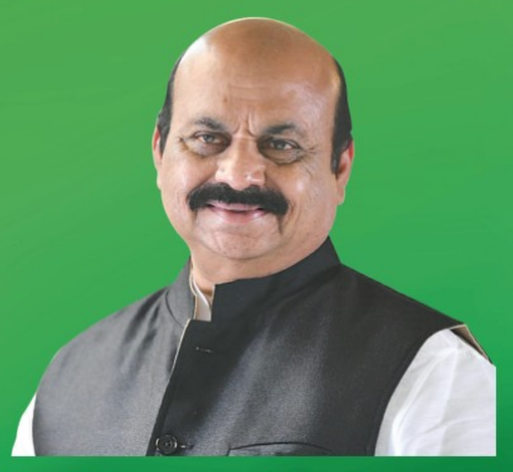
Government of India

NAVA KARNATAKA
FOR NAVA BHARAT

Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister

Karnataka Marches Ahead on Growth Path under the Able Leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister



Shri Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister

Inauguration of **India Energy Week**,
Dedication of **HAL Helicopter Factory** to the Nation,
Unveiling of **Light Utility Helicopter**
and Foundation Stone Laying for
Tumakuru Industrial Township and **Jal Jeevan Mission Projects**
all worth over **Rs.2,750 Crore**

by **Shri Narendra Modi**
Hon'ble Prime Minister Of India

6 February 2023

Bengaluru: 11.30 am

India Energy Week
BIEC, Bengaluru

- A pre-eminent platform for experts in the traditional and non-traditional energy industry from around the world
- Showcases India as a global powerhouse for the energy transition
- Presents India as a hub that brings together the international energy industry
- Provides a unique opportunity for key decision-makers to expedite synergies between stakeholders and identify new growth opportunities

The Exhibition

- Participation by 1,000 exhibitors from over 50 countries
- National pavilion presentations from 15 countries
- A showcase of the latest products, services and solutions to help drive the energy industry forward
- Exhibitors include NOCs, NECs, IOCs and IECs, international service providers, EPC contractors, technology, service companies, utility companies, and financial organizations from across the oil, gas, alternative and renewable energy value chain

Tumakuru: 3.30 pm

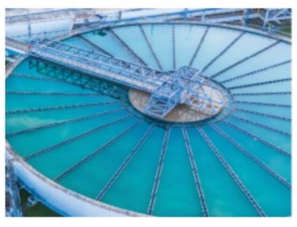
HAL Helicopter Factory,
Gubbi Taluk, Tumakuru

- India's largest Helicopter manufacturing facility
- Greenfield Helicopter Factory to manufacture Light Utility Helicopters (LUH) and Indian Multirole Helicopters (IMRH)
- Generates direct and indirect employment
- Boosts the aerospace manufacturing ecosystem in the region
- Supports skill and infrastructure development such as schools, colleges and residential areas
- Equipped with state-of-the-art Industry 4.0 tools and techniques for operations
- Spread across 615 acres of land

Tumakuru Industrial Township,
an Industrial Node on
Chennai-Bengaluru Industrial Corridor

- The project's vision is to create an "Advanced Technology-Centric Industrial Hub North of Bengaluru"
- Generates employment to over 90,000 people
- The project area is spread over 1,722 acres and is being implemented at a cost of Rs. 1,701 crore

Multi-Village Water Supply Schemes Under Jal Jeevan Mission in Tumakuru



Tiptur Taluk

Benefits

- Treated water for 1.86 lakh people from the Hemavathi River
- Sustainable pure drinking water for the benefit of 403 rural habitations (398 in Tiptur Taluk and enroute 5 habitations in Turuvekere Taluk)

- **Project cost:** Rs. 435 crore
- 12.93 MLD Water Treatment Plant
- MVS is designed for 30 years

Chikkanayaknahalli Taluk

Benefits

- Treated water for 47,000 people from the Boranakanive Reservoir
- Sustainable pure drinking water for the benefit of 147 rural habitations of Chikkanayakanahalli Taluk

- **Project cost:** Rs. 115 crore
- 3.17MLD Water Treatment Plant
- MVS is designed for 30 years

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As enshrined in our Constitution, - to safeguard public property and to abjure violence is the fundamental duty of every citizen of India.

karnataka information
Department of Information and Public Relations

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ADANI STOCK 'SCAM'

Congress to target PM with 3 questions a day

NEWS » PAGE 11

ASSAM CHILD MARRIAGES

Men arrested; young wives in distress

NEWS » PAGE 10

'TIPRA NO THREAT'

Saha downplays rise of new local party

NEWS » PAGE 11

DATA POINT

Discrepancies in the AISHE report

Inconsistencies surface in population estimates and GER calculations

OPINION » PAGE 9

THE END OF MANF

Scholars face ordeal over delayed funds

NEWS » PAGE 10

Pervez Musharraf

Musharraf passes away in Dubai

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

Former Pakistan President and Army chief General Pervez Musharraf (retd), who proposed what he called the "Musharraf formula" to resolve the Jammu and Kashmir dispute between India and Pakistan, passed away in Dubai on Sunday, five years after he was diagnosed with a rare condition called amyloidosis, former spokesperson and close aide Raza Bokhari told *The Hindu*.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 10

U.S. shoots down balloon, Beijing warns of response

China says it was a civilian weather balloon that drifted off course, but the U.S. called it a surveillance balloon; such Chinese balloons have been spotted over Asia, including the Andamans

Ananth Krishnan
BEIJING

The United States early on Sunday shot down a Chinese surveillance balloon that had floated over American airspace for several days, triggering the latest diplomatic crisis amid already worsening relations between the world's two biggest powers.

Beijing reacted angrily to the shooting down of what the U.S. called a "surveillance balloon" but Chinese authorities maintained that it was a civilian airship used for meteorological purposes that had drifted off course. On Sunday, the Chinese military said that it now "reserve[s] the right" to take the same measures if a similar situation arose.

Bone of contention: The Chinese balloon drifts to the ocean after being shot down off the coast of South Carolina, U.S. REUTERS

Noting that the U.S. government had said that the balloon did not present a military or physical threat, the Chinese Foreign Ministry said that "the U.S. use of force is a clear overreaction and a serious violation of international practice".

"China will resolutely safeguard the legitimate rights and interests of the company concerned, and reserves the right to make further responses if necessary," the Ministry said in a statement.

Diplomatic crisis

The appearance of the balloon in the skies over the western U.S. State of Montana sparked an unexpected diplomatic row at a time when both sides were looking to stabilise increasingly tense relations.

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken called off a visit to China that was set to begin on Monday. Had the visit happened, it would have been the first by a top U.S. diplomat since 2018.

With the balloon making its way east across the continental U.S. and finally heading towards the waters of the Atlantic Ocean, U.S. President Joe Biden ordered for it to be shot down.

He had decided against doing so previously because of fears of damage from falling debris.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 10

Modi visiting poll-bound Karnataka today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Getting poll-ready with several swift decisions on Saturday, the BJP is looking to galvanise party workers and the general public alike for the elections with the charisma of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to woo the Karnataka electorate ahead of the polls in April/ May.

Mr. Modi will be on a day's trip to Karnataka on Monday, attending functions in Bengaluru and Tumakuru before heading back to Delhi.

This will be his third trip to Karnataka in less than a month.

While the Prime Minister had visited Karnataka twice in January, he will be arriving in the State on Monday to attend a series of functions.

The BJP functionaries had earlier informed that Mr. Modi would be coming to Karnataka often ahead of elections.

Narendra Modi

According to government sources, the Prime Minister will inaugurate the India Energy Week at BIEC here on Monday before proceeding to Biderahalli Kaval in Gubbi taluk of Tumakuru district.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 6

NEARBY

Two found dead outside sewage treatment plant

BENGALURU
Two labourers working in a sewage treatment plant (STP) at an apartment complex, at Konanakunte, were found dead early on Sunday. The police suspect that the duo died due to suffocation or electrocution, and are awaiting the post-mortem report. A senior police officer claimed the duo had fallen to their death outside the STP.

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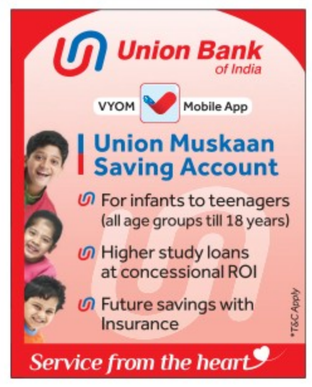
EDUCATIONPLUS » PAGE 7



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- Bachelor of Communication & Journalism (3 years)
- BBA (3 years)
- BCA (3 years)
- B.Sc. Computer Science (3 years)
- B.Sc. Nursing (4 years)
- BA (Hons) in English/ Economics/Sociology/Psychology/ Anthropology (3 years)
- B.Com (Hons) (3 years)

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- M.Sc Biotechnology (2 years)
- M.Sc. Applied Microbiology (2 years)
- M.Sc. Computer Science (2 years)
- M.Sc. Nursing (2 years)
- M.Sc. (Phy./ Chem./ Math & Data Science (2 years)
- M.Sc (by Research - S & T Translation) (2 years)
- M.Com (2 years)
- M.Tech. (2 years)
- MCA (2 years)
- LLM (2 years)
- M. Arch (2 years)
- Int. M.Tech & Ph.D (5 years)
- Master of Communication & Journalism (2 years)
- MA in Economics (2 years)
- MA in Sociology (2 years)
- MA in English (2 years)
- MA/M.Sc. in Psychology (2 years)
- MA / M.Sc. in Public Policy (2 years)
- MA in Leadership (2 years)
- MA in Anthropology (2 years)
- MA in Spiritualism (2 years)
- M.A. Yoga Therapy (2 years)
- Master of Hospital Administration (2 years)
- Master of Public Health (2 years)
- MBA (2 years)
- MBA in Business Analytics (2 years)
- MBA in Healthcare Management (2 years)
- MBA in Construction Management (2 years)
- MBA in Supply Chain Management (2 years)
- MBA-Rural Management (2 years)
- MBA Agribusiness Management (2 Years)
- Ph.D

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401-500 Engineering
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KIIT (Deemed to be University) has only one permanent campus in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. It has no other campus / off campus anywhere else in the country and globe.

Google play

M BG-BGE

Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

30 The percentage by which price caps on Russian oil likely hit Moscow's revenues from oil and gas exports, from a year ago period, according to International Energy Agency (IEA) chief Fatih Birol. He said the growth in global oil demand this year will come from China and that may need the OPEC+ countries to look at their (output) policies. Reuters

232 The number of apps, operated by overseas entities, blocked by the government for being involved in betting, gambling etc. "The order to block 138 apps that were involved in betting, gambling and money laundering were issued last evening. Separately, an order to block 94 apps engaged in unauthorised loan service has also been issued," an official said. PTI

94.5 In crore, the total number of voters this year, a six-fold increase in the total number of voters since 1951, but almost one-third of them stayed away from the last Lok Sabha polls. People from urban areas, youth and migrants are part of this category of missing voters. The EC has pointed to urban apathy in the recently-held polls in H.P. and Gujarat. PTI

28,852 In ₹ crore, the amount foreign investors pulled out from Indian equities in January, making it the worst outflow in the last seven months, primarily due to the attractiveness of Chinese markets. This was also the biggest monthly withdrawal since June 2022, when they pulled out ₹50,203 crore from equities. PTI

2,278 The number of arrests as the Assam Police continues with its crackdown on child marriage in the State for the third day in a row. A police statement said the arrests were made based on 4,074 FIRs across the State. Dhubri recorded the most number of FIRs, followed by Hojai. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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Andhra Pradesh's capital conundrum

Why did the 2014 TDP government decide on Amaravati as the capital city? What is the Andhra Pradesh CRDA Act? What is the current Chief Minister's plan with respect to a capital city?

EXPLAINER

Sumit Bhattacharjee

The story so far:

Ever since the State of Andhra Pradesh was bifurcated by the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act of 2014, creating the State of Telangana and the State of Andhra Pradesh, the issue of a capital city has always been a contentious issue for A.P. Nara Chandrababu Naidu of the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) who had come to power in June 2014 with the bifurcation of the State had gone with Amaravati for a capital city. The government then passed the AP CRDA Act, and established the AP Capital Region Development Authority for the purpose of planning, executing, financing and securing the planned development of the capital region development area. A land pooling scheme was offered to the farmers in the capital region and about 33,000 acres were acquired for building the capital.

Why did Mr. Naidu choose Amaravati?

The Sivaramakrishnan Committee appointed in 2014 favoured decentralisation and suggested the Vizag sub-region, as a potential capital space. However, Mr. Naidu was of the opinion that Visakhapatnam was already a developed city and had called it, post-bifurcation, as the 'financial capital' of the State. He wanted a greenfield capital in a new region for development.

What changed?

In 2019, YSR Congress defeated TDP to form the government and immediately appointed the G.N. Rao Committee to give a report on the earlier decentralised capital idea. Based on the report, current Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy came up with the idea of making Visakhapatnam the executive capital, Kurnool the judicial capital and Amaravati the legislative capital. In January 2020, the Assembly approved the repealing of the AP CRDA Act and passed the AP Decentralisation and Inclusive Development of All Regions Bill, 2020. However, about 63 farmers approached the A.P. High Court against the new Act and after sustained agitation and court proceedings, in March 2022, the A.P. High Court gave a verdict stating that the State government should follow through with the earlier AP CRDA Act where Amaravati would be the State capital.

An aerial view of the Beach Road in Visakhapatnam. DEEPAK K. R.

Following the verdict, in September 2022, the A.P. Government filed an appeal in the Supreme Court against the High Court's verdict, citing infringement of rights to federalism by the High Court and arguing that it is the State's prerogative to decide on its capital city.

On November 28, 2022, the Supreme Court stayed the Andhra Pradesh High Court's order for developing Amaravati as the only capital of the State, saying courts can't act as a town planner. But it has reserved its final judgment and the hearing process is still on.

What happened now?

On January 31, Mr. Reddy in an investors summit at New Delhi declared that Visakhapatnam will shortly become the capital and that he will also be shifting to the port city. Opposition parties pointed out that it was contempt of court, as the case was still pending in the Apex Court. A senior advocate of A.P. High Court G. Lakshminarayana has written a letter to the Chief Justice of India citing that the CM has grossly violated Section 2(C) of Contempt of Courts Act, 1971 as his remarks amounted to undermining the authority of the Supreme Court, and interfering with the administration of justice with regard to the capital city of A.P.

While the State is primarily fighting on the grounds of infringement of federal structure, a few critical legal aspects such as property rights and contractual obligations to farmers need to be considered.

THE GIST

- Nara Chandrababu Naidu of the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) who had come to power in June 2014 with the bifurcation of the State had gone with Amaravati for a capital city for Andhra Pradesh.
- In 2019, the current Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy came up with the idea of making Visakhapatnam the executive capital, Kurnool the judicial capital and Amaravati the legislative capital.
- However, after sustained agitation by farmers, in March 2022, the AP High Court gave a verdict stating that the State government should follow through with the earlier AP CRDA Act where Amaravati would be the State capital.

Scientists' take on the Union Budget 2023-24

Five scientists and science administrators share their analysis on the allocations for various scientific intiatives and research programmes by the Union government in the Budget delivered last week

T.V. Padma

The story so far:

The Union Budget 2023-24 was delivered on February 1. In this article, five scientists and science administrators present key takeaways from the Budget.

Dr. N. Kalaiselvi, Director-General, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)

The Amrit Kaal budget is favourable to India's science and technology (S&T) ecosystem. CSIR has an active presence in all its focus areas. It plays a pivotal role in green hydrogen research and development (R&D) under the National Hydrogen Mission. It has a Sickle Cell Anaemia Mission as the budget announced a National Mission to eliminate this disease by 2047. The application of AI in various sectors and focus on futuristic medical devices and technologies augur well. CSIR has an ongoing AI programme to augment AI application in several areas. A new programme to promote innovation in pharmaceuticals at centres of excellence is heartening. This is also a truly green budget with several announcements on the environment front.

Dr. C.P. Rajendran, National Institute for Advanced Studies

India's 2023-2024 budget allocated ₹2,000 crore more than what the Ministry of Science and Technology received in 2022-2023. The Department of Science and Technology saw a major uptick, but not a big jump after inflation and GST. The infusion is probably for the National Science Foundation.

It's unclear how the financial management of this new funding scheme will differentiate it from existing funding agencies stifled by bureaucracy. Researchers often feel it's easier to have a project approved than to receive funds periodically. So while we need more funds, it is equally important that India break the bureaucratic barriers in science departments.

Dr. Rajesh Gokhale, Secretary, Department of Biotechnology (DBT)

The vision of a new India is clear in the budget. The "green growth" principle in the innovation ecosystem requires biotechnology to play a major role in finding sustainable solutions.

DBT is developing a policy framework for 'high-performance biomanufacturing' to foster world-class facilities and workforce in synthetic biology-based manufacturing practices. It will build on our response to COVID-19 by improvements in healthcare S&T with a focus on 'One Health'. DBT will operationalise the Tuberculosis Genomic Surveillance consortium to predict drug-resistance. It is also developing a programme to genetically characterise minor millets. The linkages between research and commercialisation should be strengthened and the private sector should invest more in R&D and fund high-risk startups.

Dr. Soumitro Banerjee, Professor, Department of Physical Sciences, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Kolkata

The current level of S&T expenditure is hopelessly inadequate if India is to compete at the international level in knowledge generation. Of the outlay, only 0.36% has been allocated to the Ministry of S&T. Those for the Departments of Biotechnology and of Scientific & Industrial Research have been reduced, adjusting for inflation. The Department of Atomic Energy (₹25,078 crore) and the Department of Space (₹12,543 crore) also support research but only with a fraction of their allocations. The latter's allocation has been cut by 8%. The New Education Policy 2020 recommends increasing the education spending to 6% of GDP. After the commitment by the States, the Union government has to commit at least 10% of its budget for the total education spending to reach that level. But education has received only 2.5% of this budget.

Tapasya Srivastava, Department of Genetics, University of Delhi

All thought-out plans need better implementation, so how the funds are allocated will determine the benefits of the increase. Hand in hand with the agritech push, millet research will have tremendous nutritional benefits in the long run. Opening up select Indian Council of Medical Research labs for research to the public and private sector, the push for education and research on biomedical devices , pharma research, and AI interdisciplinary research are much needed. With cohesive implementation, they can transform health research in India. For education, the Budget gave two indicators that will be game changers if implemented well – digital libraries and an emphasis on teacher training. In a world focused on internet information capture, moving back to library-based reading will have far-reaching benefits. For teacher training, "innovative pedagogy" will require going beyond being a buzzword. Identifying trainers for teachers is key to successful implementation.

THE GIST

- Dr. Rajesh Gokhale states that the vision for a new India is clear in the budget. He also said that the linkages between research and commercialisation should be strengthened and that the private sector should invest more in R&D and fund high-risk startups.
- Tapaya Srivastava said that for education, the Budget gave two indicators that will be game changers if implemented well — digital libraries and an emphasis on teacher training.
- One can read the full version of each comment here bit.ly/scientistsbudgetanalysis.

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SANGEETA Shemade D/o Raghunath Chopade W/o Appasab, R/o Kadapur, Belgaum, Karnataka–591247, Have Changed My Name to Sangeeta Mane.

I, DIANA Shamala Vijayan, D/o Arul Dass.D.V, R/at No.1/2, 2nd Floor, 1st Main, 6th Cross, Chinnappa Garden, Benson Town, Bengaluru-560046 have changed my name from Diana Shamala Vijayan to Diana Shamala vide affidavit dated 04-02-2023 before Notary Udaya Kumar.K, Bengaluru.

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF CITY CIVIL JUDGE, MAYO HALL, BANGALORE (CCH-74)
O.S. No. 25626 of 2022.

M/s. ICICI Bank Ltd.,
Having its Regd. Off at Mytree Centre, No.4, 101 Hosur Road, Bommanahalli, Bangalore- 560068. Reptd. by its Debt Collection Manager : Sri.Pramodh G, S/o. Gurumallappa B ...**Plaintiff**

Mr. Somu Suresh, Aged about 40 years, S/o. Mr. Paartha Sarathi Somu, R/at No. 13, M Srinivas Building, R.A. Road, Ejipura, Viveknagar, Bangalore - 047.
...**Defendant**

WHEREAS the plaintiffs have instituted the above suit against you seeking to recover a sum of Rs.3,80,303/-(Rupees Three Lakhs Eighty Thousand Three Hundred and Three Only) together with future interest at 14.00% p.a, you are hereby summoned to appear in this court in person or by pleader on the 10th day of March, 2023 to answer the same, failing which the suit/application will be disposed of ex-parte.

Given under my hand and seal of this court on 02/02/2023.

Bengaluru.
Dated: 02/02/2023.
By Order of the Hon. Court,
sd.
Dy. Registrar,
City Civil Court, Mayo hall unit, Bangalore.

ALTAF HASAN, Advocate for Plaintiff,
60, G-3, M.M.Complex, Tasker Town, Chikka Bazar Road, Shivajinagar, Bangalore- 560051

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Gagan Gamunda alias Gagan G R S/o Ramesh G, residing at # Venkateswara Nilaya, Ward No 2, T.B Exatation Nagamangala., Mandya, Karnataka - 571432, changed my name to Gagan Ganganahalli Ramesh for all purposes in future.

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF IV ADDL. CITY CIVIL JUDGE, MAYOHALL AT BANGALORE (CCH-21)
O.S. No. 25826/2022

BETWEEN :
M/S. ICICI BANK LIMITED
Mittal Tower, M.G. Road, Bangalore- 560001
Represented by its officer of Power of Attorney Holder
Mr. Promod G., Aged about 46 years, S/o. Mr. Gurumallappa
...PLAINTIFF

AND :
Mr. GIRISH KUMAR
S/o. Siva Sankar Raju
No. 7, NRI Layout, R.M. Nagar, Bangalore- 560016
...DEFENDANT

Summons to Defendants

Whereas, the above named Plaintiff has filed Civil Suit for Recovery of a sum of **Rs. 15,95,367.24/- (Rupees Fifteen Lakhs Ninty Five Thousand Seventy Three Hundred Sixty Seven and paisa Twenty Four Only)** apart from future interest of 11.25% p.a., in **O.S. No. 25826/2022** and same is pending adjudication in **CCH- 21**, Before Addl. City Civil Court Mayo hall, Bengaluru.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble Court on the 04th day of March, 2023 at 11:00 A.M. to answer to the same, if failed the suit will be decided in your absence, Ex-parte.

Given under my Hand and Seal of the Court this the 24th day of January, 2023.

By order of the Court
Deputy Registrar,
City Civil Court Mayohall
Bengaluru- 560001

FX & CO.,
ADVOCATES
New No. 09, Old No. 11/1
Gover Road, Cox Town,
Bengaluru- 560005

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF IV ADDL. CITY CIVIL JUDGE, MAYOHALL, AT BANGALORE (CCH- 21)
O.S. NO. 26521/2021

BETWEEN:
M/S. ICICI BANK LIMITED
Mittal Tower, M.G. Road, Bangalore- 560001
Represented by its officer of Power of Attorney Holder Mr. Promod G, Aged about 46 years, S/o. Mr. Gurumallappa
...PLAINTIFF

AND
1. Mr. KRISHNA C
S/o. Chikkanna, Aged 32 years
28, 2nd Main Road, 3rd Cross, Opp. Ammaniyamma House, Rangaswamy Camp, Chikkajala, Bangalore- 562157
2. UDAY C, 76, Jala Hobali, Near Church, Chikkajala, Bangalore- 562157
...DEFENDANTS

Summons to Defendants

Whereas, the above named Plaintiff has filed a Civil Suit for Recovery of a sum of **Rs. 6,14,078.34/- (Rupees Six Lakhs Fourteen Thousand Seventy Eight and paisa Thirty Four Only)** apart from future interest of 16.50% & p.a., in **O.S. No. 25361/2022** and same is pending adjudication in **CCH- 29**, Before Addl. City Civil Court Mayohall, Bengaluru.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble Court on the **13th Day of March, 2023** at **11:00 A.M.** to answer to the same, if failed the suit will be decided in your absence, Ex-parte.

Given under my Hand and Seal of the Court this the 25th day of January, 2023.

By Order of the Court
Deputy Registrar,
City Civil Court,
Mayohall, Bangalore- 560001

FX & CO.,
ADVOCATES,
New No. 9, Old No.11/1
Gover Road, Cox Town,
BENGALURU 560 005.

EDUCATIONAL

GENERAL

RAXA (A GMR Group Company) GMR SERVICES

DRONE TRAINING

DGCA APPROVED DRONE PILOT TRAINING

Industrial Level Survey, Mapping & Drone Data Analysis
Best in class training at the most cost effective rates & a high Demand Sector

Minimum qualification: 10th Pass & above, 18 years of Age, Male / Female candidates welcome (Passport Mandatory).

RAXA SECURITY SERVICES LTD
Raxa Academy, Near Kodikonda checkpost, NH-7, Chillamatur, Morampalli post, Hindpur Taluk, Sri Satya Sai District, Andhra Pradesh- 515601
Ph: 70657 84244 / 70775 25013
001anujsinghchauhan@gmail.com / jagannath.parida@gmrgroup.in

REAL ESTATE

Luxurious Farm House For Sale

A well built, new farm house on the way to Kaggalipura from Bannerghatta Circle in Bengaluru having an extent of 1.50 acres is for sale.

- Main guest house 4760.00 S.ft. (3 BHK house fully loaded)
- Servant Quarters
- Security Cabin
- DG Room

AMENITIES: Walking Paths (6' wide allround the compound wall)

- Fountain with garden area
- Water body
- Gazebo
- Lawn areas

Interested parties may contact
Mr. Anil Kumar - 9164438470

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

INVITATION FOR TENDER (Through e-Procurement Portal Only)

BWSSB invites tenders from registered agencies for the following works.

Office of the Chief Engineer (South), 7th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 009.

Sl. No.	Division	IFT Number	Amount put to tender EMD(In Rs.)	Last date & time for Submission of Tender	Date & time for Opening of Tender
1	South West - 1	BWSSB/EESW-1/TO/PB/1501/ 2022-23 Date: 01.02.2023	Rs. 8,14,070/- Rs. 20,352/-	14.02.2023 upto 4:00 p.m.	16.02.2023 after 3:00 p.m.
2		BWSSB/EESW-1/TO/PB/1501/ 2022-23 Date: 01.02.2023	Rs. 17,28,466/- Rs. 43,300/-		
3		BWSSB/EESW-1/TO/PB/1501/ 2022-23 Date: 01.02.2023	Rs. 11,85,025/- Rs. 29,630/-		
4		BWSSB/EESW-1/TO/PB/1501/ 2022-23 Date: 01.02.2023	Rs. 14,16,277/- Rs.35,410/-		
5		BWSSB/EESW-1/TO/PB/1501/ 2022-23 Date: 01.02.2023	Rs. 32,27,644/- Rs. 64,600/-		
6	South West - 1	BWSSB/EESW-1/TO/PB/1570/ 2022-23 Date: 03.02.2023	Rs. 35,91,689/- Rs. 71,900/-	17.02.2023 upto 4:00 p.m.	20.02.2023 after 3:00 p.m.
7		BWSSB/EESW-1/TO/PB/1570/ 2022-23 Date: 03.02.2023	Rs. 38,99,668/- Rs. 78,000/-		
8		BWSSB/EESW-1/TO/PB/1570/ 2022-23 Date: 03.02.2023 (Reserved for SC Category)	Rs. 25,00,207/- Rs. 25,200/-		
9		BWSSB/EESW-1/TO/PB/1570/ 2022-23 Date: 03.02.2023	Rs. 20,54,241/- Rs. 50,000/-		
10		BWSSB/EESW-1/TO/PB/1570/ 2022-23 Date: 03.02.2023 (Reserved for SC Category)	Rs. 19,75,648- Rs. 24,800/-		

Sd/- Executive Engineer(South West -1).

11	South -1	BWSSB/EES-1/AE/2543/ 2022-23 Date: 03.02.2023	Rs. 41,36,775/- Rs. 82,800/-	17.02.2023 upto 4:00 p.m.	20.02.2023 after 3:00 p.m.
12		BWSSB/EES-1/AE/2544/ 2022-23 Date: 03.02.2023	Rs. 49,29,109/- Rs. 98,600/-		
13		BWSSB/EES-1/AE/2545/ 2022-23 Date: 03.02.2023	Rs. 15,25,186/- Rs. 38,200/-		

Sd/- Executive Engineer(South-1).

Office of the Chief Engineer (West), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 009.

14	North West - 2	BWSSB/EENW-2/TO/PB/2266/ 2022-23 Date: 03.02.2023	Rs. 13,26,362/- Rs. 33,200/-	13.02.2023 upto 4:00 p.m.	14.02.2023 after 4:30 p.m.

Sd/- Executive Engineer(North West -2).

15	West -1	BWSSB/EEW-1/PB/2769/ 2022-23 Date: 03.02.2023	Rs. 17,50,296/- Rs. 43,800/-	14.02.2023 upto 4:00 p.m.	15.02.2023 after 4:30 p.m.
16		BWSSB/EEW-1/PB/2771/ 2022-23 Date: 03.02.2023	Rs. 5,40,262/- Rs. 13,600/-		
17		BWSSB/EEW-1/PB/2773/ 2022-23 Date: 03.02.2023 (Reserved for SC Category)	Rs. 5,70,554/- Rs.7,200/-		

Sd/- Executive Engineer(West -1).

Office of the Chief Engineer (North), 2nd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 009.

18	Central	BWSSB/EEC/PB/2820/ 2022-23 Date: 03.02.2023	Rs. 5,34,358/- Rs. 13,400/-	13.02.2023 upto 5:00 p.m.	14.02.2023 after 5:01 p.m.

Sd/- Executive Engineer(Central).

Office of the Chief Engineer (WWM-W), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 009.

19	WWM-Network-V.Valley	BWSSB/EE(WWM-Network)-V.V/ PB/1307/2022-23 Date: 02.02.2023	Rs. 73.44 Lakhs. Rs. 1,73,500/-	20.02.2023 upto 5:30 p.m.	22.02.2023 at 4:00 p.m.

Sd/- Executive Engineer(WWM-N)- V.V.

Office of the Chief Engineer (Design & Quality Assurance), 9th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 009.

20	Quality Assurance	BWSSB/EQATE/PB/1109/ 2022-23 Date: 30.01.2023	Rs. 81,38,460/- Rs. 1,63,000/-	20.02.2023 upto 5:30 p.m.	22.02.2023 at 12:00 Noon

Sd/- Executive Engineer(Quality Assurance).

The details regarding the tender and participation in the e-procurement portal process can be obtained by logging on to **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** For further details contact the above office during working hours.

DIPR/CP/RA/4474/2022-23

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ನಗರಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ, ವಿಜಯಪುರ

ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 08352–276996, ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್: 28352–276984, ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್: www.vijayapura.uda.gov.in

ನಂ:ನಪ್ರಾವಿ/ವಾಮಬಾ/ಹರಾಜು/2022–23/1611 ದಿನಾಂಕ:02.02.2023

ವಾಣಿಜ್ಯ ಮಳಿಗೆಗಳ ಡೆಪಾಜಿಟ್ ಬಹಿರಂಗ ಹರಾಜು ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರದ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಯೋಜನೆ–1 ಹಾಗೂ –2 ರಲ್ಲಿ ಖಾಲಿ ಇರುವ ನೆಲಮಹಡಿಯ ಹಾಗೂ ಮೊದಲ ಮಹಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಒಟ್ಟು 14 ವಾಣಿಜ್ಯ ಮಳಿಗೆಗಳನ್ನು ಮಾಸಿಕ ಬಾಡಿಗೆಯಂತೆ ಮೂರು ವರ್ಷದ ಅವಧಿಗೆ ಮಾತ್ರ ಸೀಮಿತಗೊಳಿಸಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರದಿಂದ ಬಾಡಿಗೆಯನ್ನು ನಿಗಧಿಪಡಿಸಿ ಠೇವಣಿ (ಡೆಪಾಜಿಟ್)ನ್ನು ಹರಾಜು ಮೂಲಕ ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ನಮೂದಿಸಿರುವ ದಿನಾಂಕದಂದು ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರದ ಆವರಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಬಹಿರಂಗ ಹರಾಜು ಮಾಡಲಾಗುವುದು. ವಾಣಿಜ್ಯ ಮಳಿಗೆಗಳ ವಿವರ ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತಿರುತ್ತವೆ.

ಬಹಿರಂಗ ಹರಾಜು ದಿನಾಂಕ: 14.02.2023
ಹರಾಜು ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆ ಪ್ರಾರಂಭವಾಗುವ ಸಮಯ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ: 11.00 ಘಂಟೆಗೆ

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ	ಮಳಿಗೆಗಳು ಇರುವ ಸ್ಥಳ	ಖಾಲಿ ಇರುವ ಮಳಿಗೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ	ನೆಲ ಮಹಡಿ	ಮೊದಲ ಮಹಡಿ	ಚಾಲ್ತಿ ಇರುವ ಮಾಸಿಕ ಬಾಡಿಗೆ	ಮುಂಗಡ ಠೇವಣಿ (ಕನಿಷ್ಟ) ಮೊತ್ತ
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	ಅ.ಯೋ–2 ರ ಮನಗೂಳಿ ಅಗಸಿ ಹತ್ತಿರ.	29,30,31,32	4	–	6,000/–	2.00/– (ಲಕ್ಷ)
		14,15,19,20	–	4	4,000/–	2.00/– (ಲಕ್ಷ)
2	ಅ.ಯೋ–1ರ ಕಛೇರಿ ಹಿಂಭಾಗ	25,26,35,36	1	–	16,000/–	5.00/– (ಲಕ್ಷ)
3	ಅ.ಯೋ–1 ರ ಸ್ಪೋರ್ಟ್ಸ್ ಕಾಪ್ಲೇಕ್ಸ್	8	1	–	6,000/–	2.00/– (ಲಕ್ಷ)
4	ಅ.ಯೋ–1 ರ ಸ್ಪೋರ್ಟ್ಸ್ ಕಾಪ್ಲೇಕ್ಸ್	14,15,16,17	–	4	4,000/–	1.00/– (ಲಕ್ಷ)
5	ಒಟ್ಟು ಮಳಿಗೆಗಳು	14	6	8		

ಹರಾಜು ಷರತ್ತುಗಳನ್ನು ಕಛೇರಿಯ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯದ ಕೆಲಸದ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಾಪಕರಾದ ಶ್ರೀ. ರವಿಕುಮಾರ ಚೌಧ್ರಿ ಮೊ: 9611791123 ಇವರನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸಹಿ/– (ಶಂಕರಗೌಡ ಎಸ್ ಸೋಮನಾಳ) ಕೆ.ಎ.ಎಸ್ (ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಶ್ರೇಣಿ)
ಆಯುಕ್ತರು,
ನಗರಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ, ವಿಜಯಪುರ.

ಸಹಿ/– (ಡಾ.ವಿಜಯಮಹಾಂತೇಶ ಬಿ ದಾನಮ್ಮನವರ) ಭಾ.ಆ.ಸೇ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು,
ನಗರಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ, ವಿಜಯಪುರ.

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/832/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/2022–23

CHENNAI METRO RAIL LIMITED

(A Joint Venture of Govt. of India & Govt. of Tamilnadu)
METROS, ANNA SALAI, NANDANAM, CHENNAI - 600 035.

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER on Rolling Basis

Tender 01 :	Tender cum Auction for Licensing of built-up bare shell Shops / Office Spaces located at Selected Elevated and UG Metro Stations along Corridor- 1 & 2 of Phase-I and its Extensions
E-tender ID	2023_CMRL_733964_1
Contract No	CMRL/BD/Retail-5/2021/482/03
Tender 02 :	Tender for Licensing of Semi-Naming Rights in CMRL Metro Stations of Corridor I & II of Phase 1 & its Extensions
E-tender ID	2023_CMRL_734255_1 to 2023_CMRL_734255_8
Contract No	CMRL/BD/SNR/2023/490/04
Tender 03 :	Tender cum Auction for Licensing of Street Level Kiosk at various Metro stations in Phase-I and its extension, Chennai
Contract No	CMRL/BD/Kiosk-11/Kiosk/2023/489/01
Documents downloaded from	e- tendering website **https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app.**

For due date of Bid submission, date of Bid opening and complete details, please visit e-procurement website: **https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app.** The tender will continue in rolling basis. Prospective bidders are required to periodically check the e-procurement website to know the currently available stations for Semi-Naming and availability of retail/kiosk spaces. Available inventory details will be updated every fortnight; this process will continue till completion of semi-naming and licensing of commercial spaces for Phase 1 operational stations. Any Corrigendum/Addendum to this publication, if any, would appear only on above mentioned website and will not be published in newspapers.

Tender inviting Authority:
Chief General Manager (P&BD), Chennai Metro Rail Limited, MetroS, Anna Salai, Nandanam, Chennai - 600 035. Phone - 044-2437 8000 / **www.chennaimetrorail.org.** E-mail: **krishnan.rm@cmrl.in**

Chief General Manager (P&BD), Chennai Metro Rail Limited

DIPR/500/Tender/2023

"சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம், சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்".

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public at large is hereby informed that, M/s Exide Energy Solutions Limited, Plot No 28-P, 29-46, 47-P, 50-P, 51-66, 67-P, Road no. 21, part of road No 21A part of road No.19 in the Hitech, Defence & Aerospace Park, Phase-2, Bengaluru, have been granted Environmental Clearance for Proposed Area Development project for construction of Li-ion Cells, Modules & Pack Manufacturing unit (6.5Gwh/annum) at Bengaluru Karnataka by "State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), Karnataka, vide letter No.SEIAA 169 CON 2022 Dated 30th January, 2023. Copy of Environment Clearence is available in the office of "State Pollution Control Board" for information of general public and can also be seen on the link.
htttp://164.100.213.216/E Sign/Esign/
ECLSEIAA214040 535605
SIA KA INFRA2 411175 2022.PDF.

Registered Office.
M/s. Exide Energy Solutions Limited
Exide House, No.59 E, Chowringhee Road, Kolkata, West Bengal-700020

KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED

(A Govt. of Karnataka Enterprises)

Ref:1) No: EE/KNNL/UTP DVN/RNR/PB-1/SCP 2022-23 Rd HKR / 2022-23/2421 Date: 02-02-2023 **2)** No: EE/ KNNL/ UTP DVN/ RNR/PB-1/ SCP P-2 2022-23 Rd HKR /2022-23/ 2422 Date: 02-02-2023 **3)** No: EE/ KNNL/ UTP DVN/RNR/PB-1/ TSP 2022-23 Rd HKR / 2022-23/2423 Date: 02-02-2023 **4**) No: EE /KNNL/UTP/DN/TND/ HKR Hirekerur Samuya /PB-1/2022-23/2420 Date:- 02-02-2023

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-procurement portal system)

Percentage tenders are invited by the undersigned on behalf of the Managing Director, KNNL, Bangalore, fromeligible bidders who satisfies through GO e-procurement platform www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in The 3 number of SCP/ TSP Road works & 1 Hirekabbara Samudaya Bhavana work as per Ref(1) to Ref(4) under Hirekerur Constituency for who's the cost varies from Rs 39.60 Lakhs to Rs 154.29 Lakhs (including GST) and EMD amount varies from 0.8 Lakhs to 2.32 Lakhs under UTP Division Ranebennur under the Head of account 4701M & MI & 4701 SCP/TSP for the year 2022-23.

Tender processing fee as per e-procurement portal system is non refundable. The electronic tender documents can be obtained through website www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in and can be submitted through e-portal. (1)The contractor can have access to e-tender documents from 06-02-2023 to 15-02-2023 up to 5.30 PM (2)The Last Date and time for tender queries before 13-02-2023 up to 5.30 PM. (3) Last date of bid submission of completed e-tendering documents on 15-02-2023-up to 5.30 PM(4) Technical Bid will be opened on 16-02-2023 at 5.30 PM at the office of the Executive Engineer, KNNL, UTP Division, Ranebennur. Any changes made in the said Notification Corrected / Corrigendum's will be uploaded in the e-procurement portal/ News Papers.

For details visit our website www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in or contact the undersigned in all working days during the office hours. Phone No. (08373) – 297332 Conditional tenders are liable to be rejected. The officer competent to accept the tender reserves the right of cancelling/rejecting all or any of the tenders without assigning any reasons what so ever.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, KNNL, U.T.P. Dn, Ranebennur.

1833

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
HOME DEPARTMENT
Tender Call Notice

HOME-BE-APMT1-0010-2018(O)/ 4617 , Bhubaneswar, Dated 04.02.2023

Sealed Tenders are invited under two-bid system from reputed and experienced manpower Service Providers **for outsourcing of different services of Odisha Bhawan, Chennai (Reception Service, Housekeeping & Room Services, Sweeping & Cleaning including waste management & Pest Control, Garden Maintenance and Security Services** for a period of **two years** with effect from the date of signing of the agreement on contract basis for maintenance of Odisha Bhawan, Survey No-26/3, Pallikaranai, Velachery-Tambaram Main Road, Chennai-600100.

The details of the bidding process are as follows:

Sl.No.	Bidding Schedule	Deadline
1.	Date of Issue	06.02.2023
2.	Bid Due Date and Time	27.02.2023 (by 5 P.M)
3.	Opening of Technical Bid	01.03.2023
4.	Opening and Financial Bid	06.03.2023

The detailed information for outsourcing the services of the aforesaid works has been given in the tender document which may either be downloaded from the website **www.home.odisha.gov.in** or may be obtained by person from the Office of the Assistant Resident Commissioner-cum-Manager, Odisha Bhawan, Survey No-26/3, Pallikaranai, Velachery-Tambaram Main Rd, Chennai-600100 on any working day from **06.02.2023 to 27.02.2023 between 11 AM to 4 PM**. (Telephone No.044-29873929)

The tender document will be received through speed post/registered post/ Courier during office hours. The last date and time for submission of Tender Documents is **27.02.2023 by 5 PM**. The office shall not be responsible for any kind of postal delay.

Deputy Secretary to Government

D-312: OIPR-12001/11/0035/2223

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Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation

VIVEKANAND MARG, NEAR KALPANA SQUARE, BHUBANESWAR-751014

No.5116 / BMC DT : 03.02.2023
XXXXX-II-SWMPMV-100/2022-23

NOTICE INVITING EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

On behalf of the Commissioner, Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC), Executive Engineer (Sanitation), BMC invites expression of interest (E0I) from the experienced and qualified interested Proprietorship firm/ Company/ registered partnership firm, registered company, registered society or registered trust for **"Supply, installation, commissioning, operation & maintenance of 100 TPD Construction and Demolition waste (C & D waste) processing plant in Bhubaneswar "**. The detailed E0I document can be seen and downloaded from BMC website **http://bmc.gov.in**.

For queries, interested parties may contact the office of Executive Engineer (Sanitation)/ Deputy Commissioner (Sanitation), Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation, Vivekananda Marg, Kalpana Square, Bhubaneswar-751 024.

1. Schedule of Events:

Availability of EoI document	**04.02.2023 (12:00 Noon) to 23.02.2023 till 5:00 pm** (Downloadable from **website: (http://bmc.gov.in)**
Last date & time for receipt of EoI	**23.02.2023, by 05.00 PM** (Through **Speed/ Registered post/Courier/Hand delivery**)
Place of submission of EoI	**Office of Dy. Commissioner (Sanitation) Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation** Vivekanand Marg, Near Kalpana Square, Bhubaneswar-751 014
Date and Time of Opening of EoI	**24.02.2023, at 4:00 PM**
For further enquiries, please email at :	**dc-sanitation@bmc.gov.in / swmpmubmc@gmail.com**

2. All amendments, Clarifications, time extension etc. will be uploaded in the website only interested parties should regularly visit the above website to keep themselves updated.

By Order of Commissioner, BMC
Deputy Commissioner (Sanitation)
Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation

C - 2407 OIPR-13002/11/0224/2223

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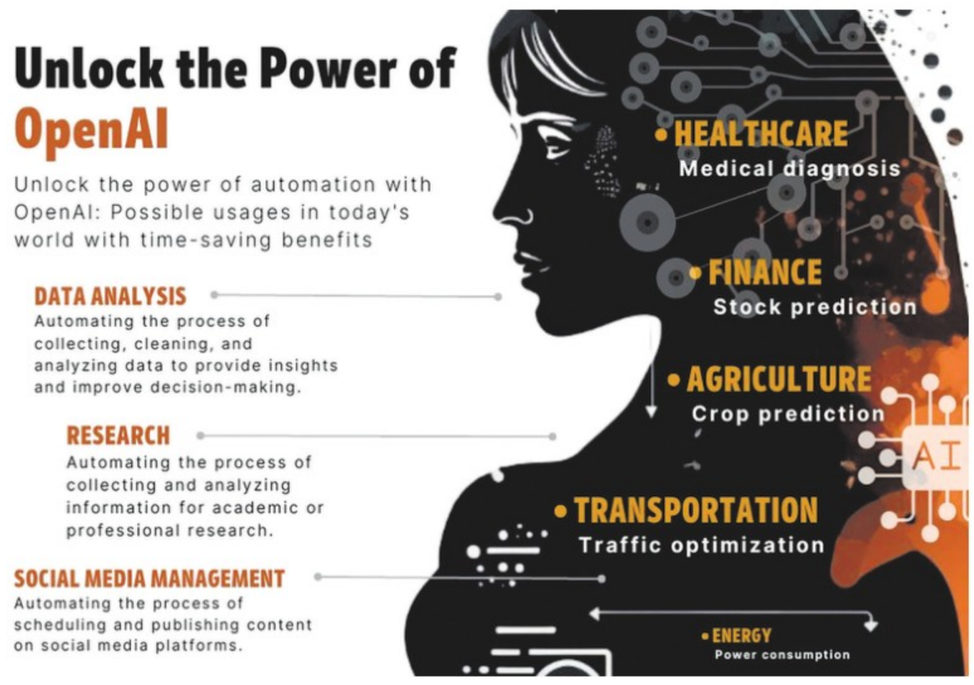
TOOLBOX

Unlocking the power of Open AI: how to automate information extraction

ChatGPT, developed by OpenAI, has gained wide popularity for its innovative language model. From streamlining business operations to simplifying research, Open AI has limitless possibilities. However, not many are aware that the technology behind ChatGPT is open-source, making it accessible for anyone to use and create their own applications. One such application is the Da Vinci model, which can be integrated into user-friendly tools to make everyday tasks more efficient. The objective of this article is to uncover the potential of Open AI and show how it can be combined with Google Sheets to revolutionise the way one works and lives. By **Premnisha Balakumar**



What is Open AI

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a field of computer science that focuses on creating machines and computer programs that can perform tasks that typically require human intelligence, such as understanding natural language, recognising images, or making decisions. These machines are designed to learn from data, which allow them to improve their performance over time.

Artificial Intelligence: AI is a field of computer science that creates machines and programs that can perform tasks that typically require human intelligence.

Machine learning: Machine learning is a field within AI that involves training a computer system to learn from data, rather than being explicitly programmed.

Deep learning: Deep learning is a type of AI that tries to depict the human brain. It uses large amount of data to learn, train and improve their performance over time.

Various use-cases of OpenAI

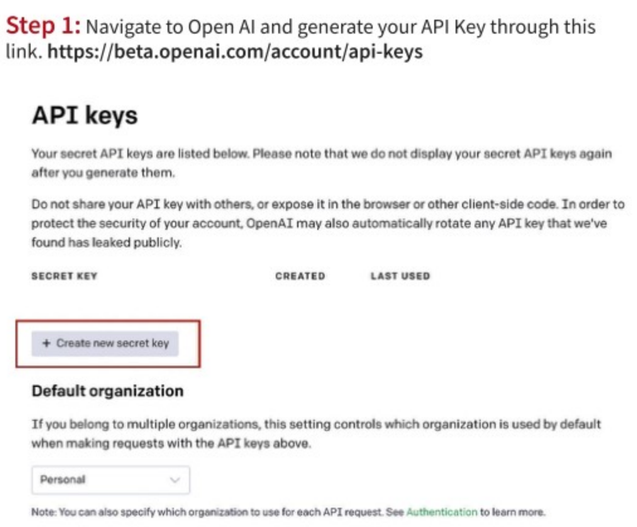
The OpenAI API is a tool that allows people to use a powerful language model called GPT-3 through a simple and easy-to-use interface. With the help of AI, computers can now perform tasks that were once thought to be exclusive to humans, such as recognising speech, translating languages, and even driving cars. AI is being integrated into various industries, making our lives more convenient, efficient and smarter. One can start using it without having to know the technology behind it. It also supports multiple languages like English, Spanish, French, and German. By using OpenAI, businesses and individuals can save a lot of time and effort by automating tedious and time-consuming tasks.

Here we will explore how OpenAI can be integrated into Google Sheets, a tool that many of us use on a daily basis, through a step-by-step approach. This article will show us how to generate our own API Key, set up a Google Sheet, and integrate OpenAI into it so that one can start reaping the benefits of this revolutionary technology.

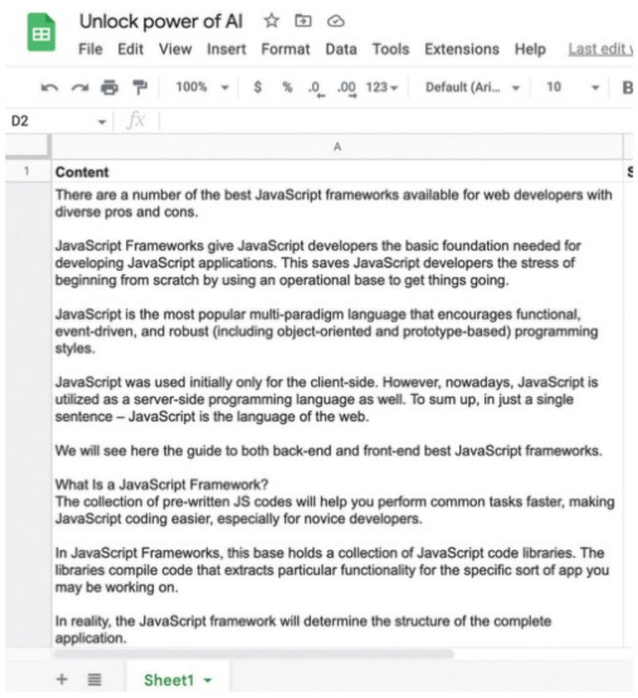
How to integrate Google sheets with Open AI

We are constantly bombarded with information. From emails to social media posts, it can be overwhelming to keep up with it all. Therefore, there needs to be a more efficient and effective way to sift through large amounts of information. By using Google App script and OpenAI, one can easily summarise any article or text, saving time and effort.

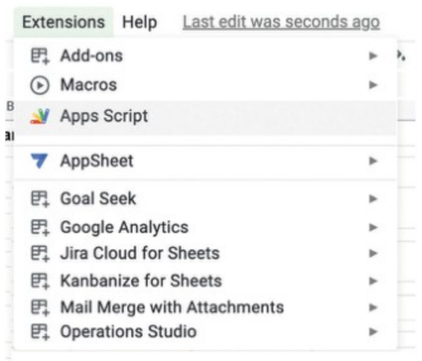
Step 1: Navigate to Open AI and generate your API Key through this link. **https://beta.openai.com/account/api-keys**



Step 2: Set up a Google Sheet with the content that needs to be summarised



Step 3: Create a new App Script project by going to "Extensions" and then "Apps Script" .



Step 4: Add the code provided below into the Script Editor

The code reads text from a sheet named 'Sheet1', and passes it to OpenAI to generate bullet points. This process can save a lot of time and effort for businesses and individuals who need to summarise large amounts of text. The code can also be copied by scanning the QR code given below.

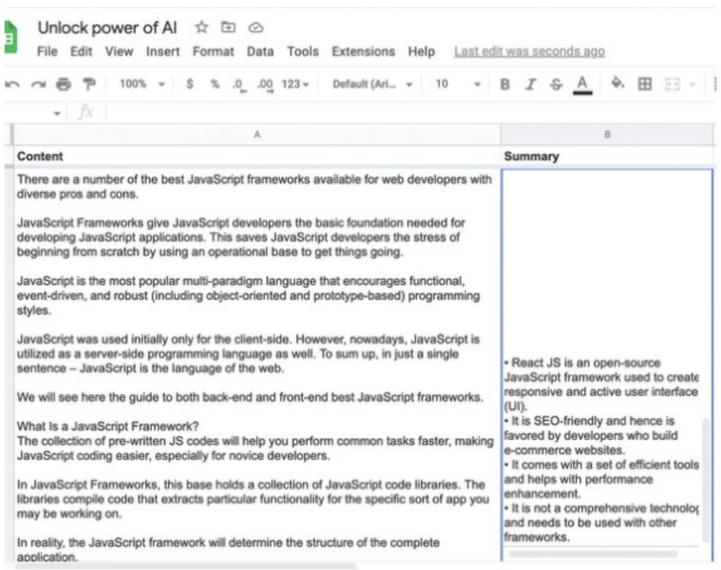
```
function summarizeText() {
 const spreadSheet = SpreadsheetApp.getActiveSpreadsheet()
 const sheetName = spreadSheet.getSheetByName('Sheet1');
 const numberOfContents = sheetName.getLastRow();
 const completionsLink = "https://api.openai.com/v1/completions";
 let paramsToSummarise = {
  model: "text-davinci-003",
  prompt: "",
  temperature: 0,
  max_tokens: 204,
  top_p: 1.0,
  frequency_penalty: 0.0,
  presence_penalty: 0.0,
 }
 let options = {
  method : 'get',
  contentType: 'application/json',
  muteHttpExceptions: true,
  payload: {},
  headers: {Authorization: "Bearer <open ai api token>"},
 }
 for (let content = 2; content <= numberOfContents ; content++ ) {
  let promptContent = sheetName.getRange(content,1).getValue();
  paramsToSummarise.prompt = promptContent + "\n\nBullet points"
  options.payload = JSON.stringify(paramsToSummarise)

  let text = UrlFetchApp.fetch(completionsLink, options).getContentText()
  let obj = JSON.parse(text)
  sheetName.getRange(content,2).setValue(obj.choices[0].text);
 }
}
```

Step 5: Replace <open ai api token> with the respective API token generated in Step 1.

Step 6: Run the code by clicking the "play" button or by pressing "Ctrl+Enter".

Step 7: The code will now extract the text in Column 1 to Open AI API, and generate the summary as bullet points

Step 8: The bullet points will now be updated to Column 2 of Sheet 1



This code is just the beginning of what can be achieved using OpenAI. OpenAI's capabilities go far beyond just generating bullet points. Using the same code one can summarise an article from a given link, translate a text into another language, summarise user feedback, generate responses to customer queries and so much more.

Conclusion

The possibilities of OpenAI are endless, and the technology is constantly evolving. OpenAI is also designed to be user-friendly, and the code above is an example of this. By using Google Sheets which is simple to set up, even non-technical users can quickly see the benefits of OpenAI for themselves.

However, it is important to remember that when using OpenAI or any AI technology, one must be mindful of the data we feed into it. One must ensure that sensitive information is not included in the data, as it can be used to train the model and therefore, lead to potential security and privacy concerns. One can fully unlock the power of OpenAI and reap the benefits it has to offer while maintaining the security and privacy of our personal information.

Premnisha Balakumar is lead developer and Head of Communities for Thoughtworks Coimbatore

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

On this date in 1840, the Treaty of Waitangi was signed, establishing New Zealand as a British colony. A quiz on some things New Zealand

V. V. Ramanan

QUESTION 1
What is the Maori name for New Zealand which means "Land of the Long White Cloud"?

QUESTION 2
The Maori names for the two islands that make up New Zealand are Te Ika-a-Māui and Te Waipounamu. What are the official English names?

QUESTION 3
Name the two New Zealanders to have won the Oscar for Best Director and for which films?

QUESTION 4
He holds the distinction of being the only cricketer to be made a Knight while still playing. Name the legendary all-rounder.

QUESTION 5
Name the flightless bird, the the smallest living ratite, that is endemic to New Zealand and whose name is used to refer to a New Zealander informally.

QUESTION 6
Considered by many as the 'father of nuclear physics', name the Nobel Laureate who gave the name proton to the sub-atomic particle.

QUESTION 7
The country has two National Anthems. If one is 'God Save the King', what is the other?

Visual question:
Named one of the best currency note designs, which legendary New Zealander is featured on the five dollar note? BANKNOTEINDEX.COM

Questions (abridged) and Answers to the February 3 edition of the daily quiz: 1. The only active player who has registered most assists than Lebron James. **Ans: Chris Paul of the Phoenix Suns**
2. This NBA player holds the record for the most NBA titles. **Ans: Robert Horry with seven Championships**
3. Lebron James has scored the highest number of points against this team. **Ans: Milwaukee Bucks**
4. The other active NBA player who won an MVP title and four NBA titles and was born in the same city as Lebron James. **Ans: Steph Curry**
5. The player who played the highest number of games as James' teammate. **Ans: Zydrunas Ilgauskas**
Visual: Name this building. **Ans: Sherwin-Williams building**
Early Birds: S. Sampath Kumar| K. N. Viswanathan

Word of the day

Equanimity:
steadiness of mind under stress

Synonyms:
calmness, calm, composure

Usage:
While the older sister received the news of her mother's death with remarkable equanimity, the younger sister was inconsolable for weeks. It is only recently that she has begun to regain her equanimity.

Pronunciation:
bit.ly/equanimitypro

International Phonetic Alphabet:
/iːkwəˈnɪmɪti,ˌɛkwəˈnɪmɪti/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Aero India: Flight operations at KIA to be partially closed

To ensure safety, airport will take up this measure during the days of practice and the main show

Schedule

February 8
9 a.m. to noon: Individual practice by participating teams
2 p.m. to 5 p.m.: Standby block for practice
February 9, 10
9 a.m. to noon: Full force flypast and flying display practice
2 p.m. to 5 p.m.: Standby block for practice
February 11
9 a.m. to noon, and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.: Final dress rehearsal
February 12
9 a.m. to noon: Standby for final dress rehearsal
February 13
9 a.m. to noon: Inaugural ceremony, flypast, and flying display
February 14, 15
Noon to 2.30 p.m.: Flying display
February 16, 17
9.30 a.m. to noon, and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.: Flying display

Flight operations at the Kempegowda International Airport will be partially closed in view of Aero India, which is scheduled to be held at the Air Force Station, Yelahanka. K. MURALI KUMAR

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Flight operations at the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) will be partially closed in view of Aero India, which is scheduled to be held at the Air Force Station, Yelahanka.

To ensure safety, the airport will partially close commercial flight operations during the days of practice and the main show. Practice is scheduled to start on February 8 and the five-day event will be held between February 13 and 17.

The airport tweeted from its official Twitter handle that there will be partial closure.

"We would like to inform you that the Ministry of Defence (MoD), Government of India (GoI) has planned to organize Aero India - 2023 at Indian Air Force Station, Yelahanka, Bangalore, India from 08 February 2023 to 17 February 2023. There will be airspace closure for civil flights operation at BLR airport as per the below schedule. For queries on revised/changed flight schedules, please connect with your respective airline, "@BLRAirport tweeted.

State's role will be minimal once NExT is introduced

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

Karnataka will have little role in seat sharing, counselling and fixing fees for postgraduate medical courses from the coming academic year, as the Union government has proposed to introduce National Exit Test (NExT) to be conducted by the National Board of Examination.

These proposals are part of the Draft National Medical Commission (Amendment) Bill, 2022. With the Bill likely to be passed soon, the first NExT will be held this December, for which all final year MBBS students will be eligible, sources in Directorate of Medical Education, Karnataka, said.

"Presently, PG medical seat counselling is being carried out by the KEA, but with NExT it will be held virtually. With no provision for physical interaction, the entire process will be online and centralised," explained B.L. Sujatha Rathod, Director, Directorate of Medical Education, Karnataka.

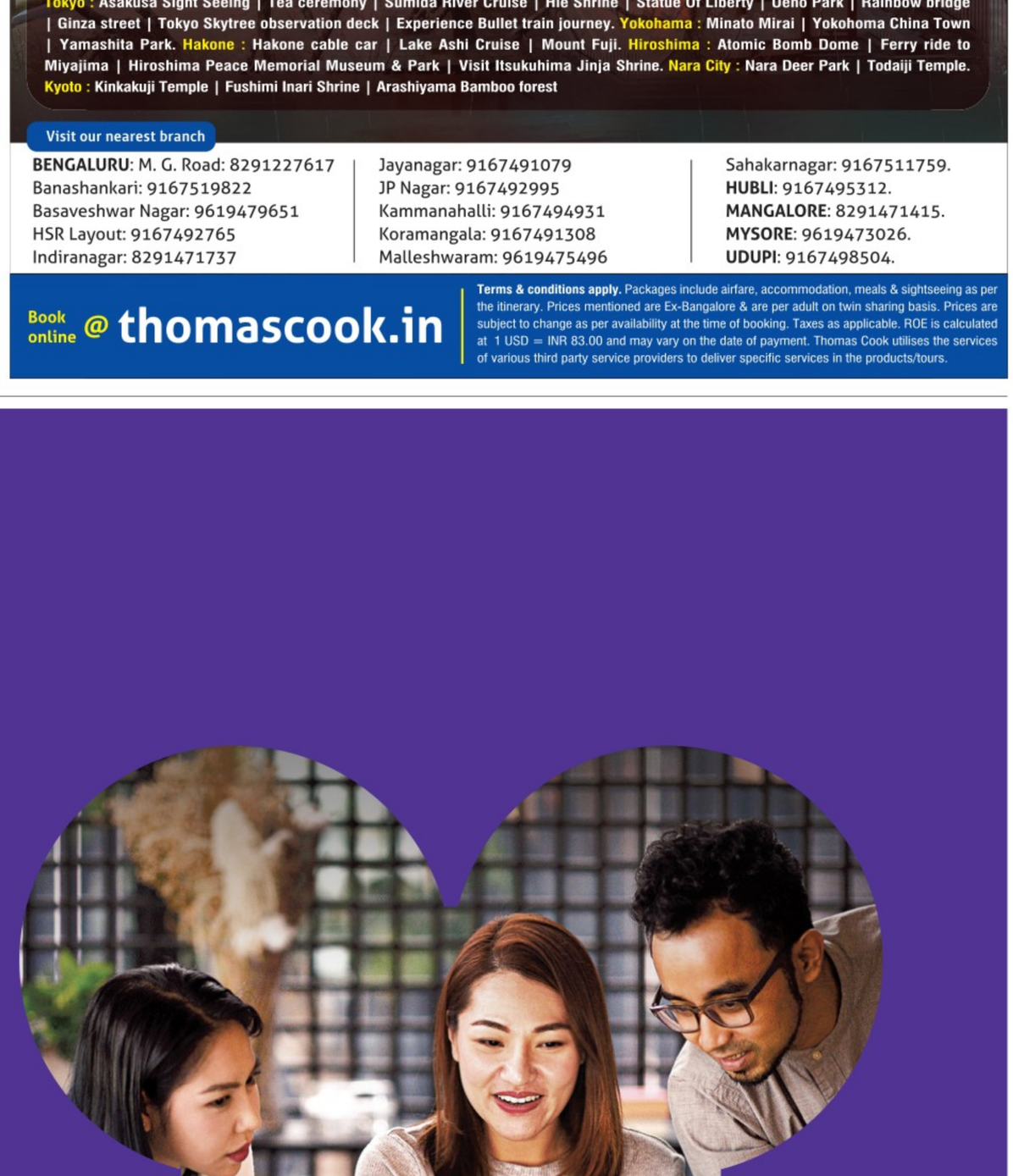
Presently, the ratio of seat sharing between the government and private medical colleges and deemed-to-be-universities is 40:60. However, the National Medical Commission has issued an order stating this will be 50:50 and the fees should be on par with that of government medical colleges, for admissions done through NExT. This essentially will provide more PG medical seats under the government quota, sources in the directorate said.

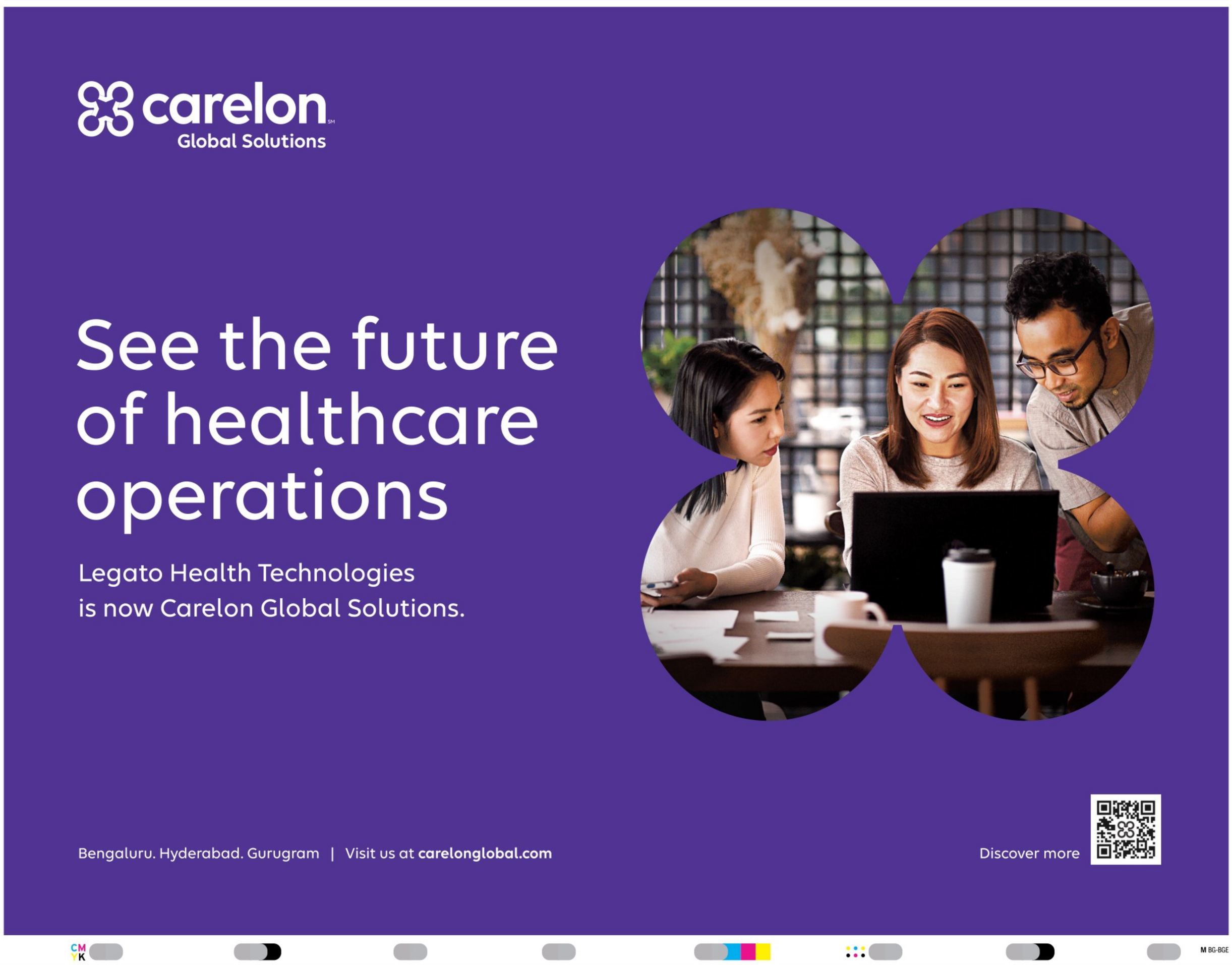
READER'S MAIL

Need for parking spaces
Sir, – With an exponential increase in private vehicles and public transport improvements moving slowly, parking on the roadside and the footpaths has increased considerably.
In many areas, vehicles completely block one lane, sometimes with their hazard lights on. The BBMP and the police need to identify parking spaces in every ward so that vehicles are not parked on footpaths.

G. Padmanabhan,
Bengaluru

Readers can email to letters.bangalore @thehindu.co.in





Timings
BENGALURU

MONDAY, FEB. 06	
RISE	06:45 SET 18:22
RISE	18:58 SET 07:11
TUESDAY, FEB. 07	
RISE	06:45 SET 18:23
RISE	19:46 SET 07:50
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 08	
RISE	06:44 SET 18:23
RISE	20:32 SET 08:27

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	20
Mysuru	31	14
Bengaluru	32	17

Bengaluru Today
30°C The weather will be dry. Morning will be cool with mist and haze. Day will be slight warm. Night will be slight cool and hazy.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
31°C A dry weather to continue. Day will be slight warm. Night will be slight cool with haze and mist.

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THE HINDU
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Two workers found dead outside STP at apartment complex under mysterious circumstances

Police suspect that the duo died owing to suffocation or electrocution, and are awaiting the post-mortem report

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Two labourers working in a sewage treatment plant (STP) at an apartment complex, at Konanakunte in South Bengaluru, were found dead under mysterious circumstances early on Sunday.

The police suspect that the duo died owing to suffocation or electrocution, and are awaiting the post-mortem report.

The deceased have been identified as Ravi Kumar, 29, from Koratagere in Tumakuru district, and Dilip Kumar Jana, 25, from Odisha. They were employees of a private firm and were deployed for work at the Prestige Falcon City apartment complex on Kanakapura Road in Anjanadri Layout.

> We are not clear as to what exactly caused their deaths. There are electrical switchboards, a transformer, and a generator near the STP, but there are no burn signs on the bodies.
> **A POLICE OFFICER**

The police said that according to preliminary investigation, the incident happened late on Saturday night.

According to a complaint by Mr. Ravi Kumar's wife Shashikala, she was informed of her husband's death on Sunday morning, by the supervisor of Bio Centra India Ltd.

A senior police officer claimed the duo had fallen to their death outside the STP. "We are not clear as to what exactly caused their deaths. There are electrical switchboards, a transformer, and a generator near the STP, but there are no burn signs on the bodies."

According to the police, work on the STP was being carried out in two shifts on Saturday. The field officer of the firm visited the apartment complex and inspected the work around 5.30 p.m.

Mr. Ravi Kumar and Mr. Dilip Kumar Jana were working in the night shift.

Later, the field officer tried to reach them over the phone to give more instructions, but they didn't answer. The field officer alerted the security guards of the apartment complex and when the guards went to check on them, they were found dead.

Ms. Shashikala filed the complaint against Mukhtiyar Ahmed, owner of Bio Centra India Ltd., and the firm employees, Prabhu electrical in charge, and Ramesh, field officer, and also against the management and the owners of Prestige Falcon City apartment block.

The Konanakunte police booked Mr. Ahmed, Mr. Prabhu, Mr. Ramesh, and the management and the owners of Prestige Falcon City apartmentcharging them under Section 304A of the IPC for causing death due to negligence. The bodies were handed over to the families after post-mortem.

Wildlife poaching cases are on the rise in Karnataka

The Criminal Investigation Department Forest Cell has registered seven cases under the Karnataka Forest Act, 1963, since January 15.

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) Forest Cell recently busted another wildlife poaching racket and arrested a 50-year-old man. Based on a tip-off, a team of officials posing as prospective clients approached him and caught him.

The officials recovered jungle cat paws and teeth, wild boar teeth, and ivory, which the accused confessed to having bought from tribals to sell to his clients.

The accused, according to the police, hailed from Rajasthan, but settled in Chikkamagaluru, and was posing as a healer of sexual problems through herbs and was also indulging in wildlife trade.

The case is only the latest registered by the CID Forest Cell as part of a crackdown in the new year. The cell has registered seven cases under the Karnataka Forest Act, 1963, since January 15.

While some pertain to killing of wild animals in man-animal conflict, many professional poachers from Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh have also been arrested.

"Wildlife poaching is also on the rise among farmers and landowners, next to reserve forest areas, especially during reports of wild animals venturing into human habitats. The landowners illegally put up snarls and electric fencing across their fields, killing wild animals. They bury the carcass without the knowledge of the Forest Department, after removing the skin, nails and teeth, paws and other parts to sell in the open market," said a senior official from the cell.

One of the reasons for stepping up vigil and cracking wildlife cases is also due to the restructured and revitalised forest cell, a wildlife enthusiast, who has been part of several operations, said.

"We have reorganised the staff and restructured the resources to make the cell more effective and to cover the entire State, as it was earlier confined to only 11 districts," K.V. Sharath Chandra, ADGP, Forest Cell said.

Meanwhile, officials said that the lack of a dedicated forensic science laboratory (FSL) for wildlife crimes in the State had been hampering investigation, as every time officials have to approach the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad.

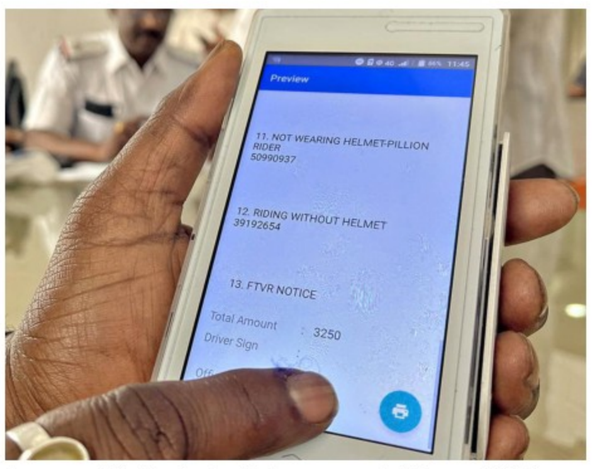
The wildlife FSL proposed since 2004, seems to be finally taking off and the State government has approved the project at an estimated cost of ₹2.7 crore.

Rebate on traffic fines: While some call for extension of the period, others raise objections over culture it promotes

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

While there have been demands for extension of the period of the 50% rebate for traffic violation fines, there have also been objections to providing the rebate itself.

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) has demanded the State government extend the time limit to avail the rebate in fines, in e-challan cases registered by traffic police across the State.



As per a notification by the State government, February 11 is the deadline to avail oneself of the rebate on pending traffic fines.
K. MURALI KUMAR

As per a notification by the government a few days ago, the deadline of February 11 was fixed to settle the dues.

Party functionary Jagdish V. Sadam in a letter to the Chief Minister sought extension of the deadline and said that extending the deadline would help all sections of society.

"Giving a grace period of just one week will make it difficult for poor and middle-class motorists to make the settlement. Also, many motorists have various essential expenses during this time. A sudden announcement on rebates does not give scope for people to save money and pay the penalties. Extension of the deadline will help the poor and middle income groups," a press release from the party stated.

Meanwhile, the public continued to express a grouse on social media that links provided by the city police to check booked traffic violation cases were of little use.

However, there have also been objections over the rebate as well.

Urban mobility expert Ashish Verma has demanded that the government reconsider the order on providing rebate.

He said: "Many types of traffic law violations potentially lead to accident-related injuries and fatalities, often involving vulnerable road users, like pedestrians, cyclists, two-wheeler riders, who are often from the low-income families and/or young age group (based on road accident data trends of Bengaluru and other cities). One way to target road safety improvements is effective and credible enforcement, within which high penalties for traffic law violations are used, across the world, as an important measure or deterrent".

He added that the current decision to offer 50% rebate on payment of traffic fines appears to be short sighted and ignores clear causality between violations and accident-related injuries and deaths.

It does not deliver any justice or equality as being claimed and rather it will only put poor people and other vulnerable road users to greater risk.

Private hospitals seek paediatric scheme dues of over ₹23 crore pending since 2017

Afshan Yasmeen
BENGALURU

Private hospitals in Karnataka are upset over the delay in payment for paediatric surgeries done under the Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK), a centrally-funded health scheme under the National Health Mission (NHM), till 2017.

This scheme, subsumed under the Ayushman Bharat-Arogya Karnataka (AB-ArK) in 2018, has again been announced as a separate health scheme for children.

Cabinet clearance

According to the Indian Medical Association's (IMA) State unit, bills of over ₹23 crore have been pending since 2017.

Officials attribute the delay to a technical glitch in the listing of procedures on the portal of Suvarna Arogya Suraksha Trust (SAST), the nodal agency implementing the State's health schemes. The issue is before the government and the payment is awaiting Cabinet clearance.

RBSK was launched in 2013-2014 to improve survival, growth, and development of children in the 0-18 age group. Focusing on the screening of infants, children, and young adults for '4 Ds' – defects at birth, deficiencies, diseases, developmental delays and disabilities – the scheme initially covered a total of 40 medical procedures, which subsequently increased to 104.

The scheme ensured children diagnosed with illness received follow-up care, including early intervention services at the district level and including surgeries at tertiary level, free of cost under NHM.

Services not available in government hospitals were made available in private empanelled hospitals.

According to SAST officials, the number of procedures listed on its portal under RBSK, got integrated with over 800 procedures under the erstwhile Vajpayee Arogyasri (VAS) and old Yeshasvini schemes.

Seven schemes were integrated into AB-ArK in 2018.

While the relaunch of RBSK is yet to take off, a modified Yeshasvini scheme became operational from January 1.

"It was a technical glitch, and for empanelled hospitals all these procedures figured under RBSK, VAS, and Yeshasvini. Unaware of the glitch, hospitals accepted patients for all the integrated procedures. Some hospitals also treated patients for the same procedures under VAS and Yeshasvini and their payments have been cleared. Although preauthorisations sent to SAST were approved, payments could not be released as the codes for the additional integrated procedures (that were under VAS and Yeshasvini) were not part of the NHM codes," SAST Executive Director Shiva Shankara N. said.

"I have submitted a detailed report to the government. I have sought permission to clear the pending dues on the grounds that if these procedures were not integrated, they would have been deemed to be treated under VAS and Yeshasvini," he said.

Caught in the middle

Meanwhile, private hospitals, who have not been able to get payments despite several representations to the government, said they have been caught between the SAST and the government since 2017.

"Many hospitals have invested in equipment, paid for consumables and salaries of staff, apart from maintenance costs. We cannot refuse treatment to patients as empanelment with SAST is for all health schemes run by the government," said Pavankumar Patil from the IMA's State unit.

Young Scientist Conclave from today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

As part of a series of events organised by the Department of Science & Technology, the Bengaluru-based Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR) is hosting the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation's (SCO) Young Scientist Conclave from Monday.

The SCO is an inter-governmental organisation, with Kazakhstan, the People's Republic of China, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Pakistan, and India as the member states.

According to the institute, this conclave aims to bring together innovative young minds from these member states onto a common platform to discuss various scientific ideas under five umbrella themes, namely agriculture and food processing; environmental protection and natural resource management; Artificial Intelligence and big data research and application; sustainable energy and energy storage, and disease biology and healthcare.

The conclave will be live-streamed on YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/@scoysc2022/

Text & Context
A weekday feature on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) carries explainers, special articles and a quiz. In the latest issue (February 6, Monday), the following explainer is available:

- What are scientists saying about the science Budget? *The Hindu* asked five **bit.ly/scientistsbudgetanalysis**

You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access this article. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access the article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text on camera to do the same.

Directorate of Health & Family Welfare Services
Arogya soudha, 1st Cross, Magadi Road, Bengaluru - 560023.

No.JD(M)/KPME/11/20-21 Date: 03-02-2023

Walk-in- interview for post of Technical Assistant (One Post) Under KPME Act on contract basis is called on 15/02/2023.

Eligibility criteria for Technical Assistant: -
1) Qualification : BE/B.Tech in Computer Science or IT (Information Technology)
2) Technical Skill : Development/API experience in Web Application using Net framework 4.0 or above and SQL Server 2012 or above.
3) Experience : Minimum 03 Years
4) Upper age limit : 35yrs
5) Remuneration : 50,000/- Per Month
6) Selection process for post : Walk-in-Interview
7) Good Typing knowledge in Kannada and English
8) Immediate Joiners.
9) Well versed in multiple languages, and good communication skill.

Note:- The Documentation Verification will be done at **10:00 am to 1:00pm on 15/02/2023** and Walk-in-Interview is arranged at **2:00pm to 4:00pm on 15/02/2023** at Directorate of Health and Family Welfare Services, Government of Karnataka, 6th Floor, Arogya soudha, 1st Cross Magadi Road, Bengaluru-560023.Interested candidates may attend with all original documents with one set of xerox copy at the time of interview.

Sd/-
Director, Health & Family Welfare Services, Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/4478/Zen/2022-23

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
(PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT)
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD DIVISION BIDAR

NO: EE/PWD//DIVN/BDR/KKRDB/JE-5/ 2022-23/4475 Date: 03.02.2023

INVITATION FOR TENDERS.

On behalf of Governor of Karnataka, The Executive Engineer, PWD Division Bidar invites Tenders from eligible Tenderers for the WORK_INDENT NO. KPWD/ 2022-23/BD/RD /OW//WORK_INDENT 163942, 162833. Amount put to tender for the works are Minimum Rs. 120.00 Lakhs. & Maximum Rs. 495.00 Lakhs. Tender documents may be downloaded from the e-procurement portal of the Govt of Karnataka Viz. http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in on 04.02.2023. Tenders must be submitted through e-procurement portal on or before 16.00 hours on 20.02.2023. Further any other information can be seen from the e-procurement portal or can be had from the undersigned.
Note :- Turn over certificate Without UDI Number will not be considered.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
PWD Division Bidar.

DIPR/Bidar/448/MC&A/2022-23

Government of Karnataka
(Prisons and Correctional Services)
CENTRAL PRISON KALABURAGI

No. CPK/E-Tender/3396/2022-23 Date : 03-02-2023

E-TENDER (CALL-2) publication (Only in e-procurement portal system)

E-tender is invited through Call-2 for Build, operate and maintenance of Telecom Tower and other related passive infrastructure for Telecom requirements of Department of Prisons and Correctional Services at Kalaburagi Central Prison, Kanrataka.
1) Name of the work : Build, operate and maintenance of Telecom Tower and other related passive infrastructure for Telecom requirements of Department of Prisons and Correctional Services at Kalaburagi Central Prison, Kanrataka. 2) Estimated Contract Value: **Rs. 62,40,000 /-**, 3) Tender Processing Fee and Amount of EMD (INR) : As per e-procurement, 4) Date of Floating Bid Document Online at (www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in): 03-02-2023, 5) Last Date & Time for receipt of tenders: **13-02-2023 at 05:00 pm**, 6) Date & Time for Opening of Technical Bid : **15-02-2023 at 05:15 pm**, 7) Date & Time for Opening of Finanical Bid : **20-02-2023 at 11:00 am**, 8) Address For more information : O/o CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT, CENTRAL PRISON, KALABURAGI, PIN:585102. TELL.PHONE NO:08472-212567/212554 MOB:9480806495. 9) e-portal Address : http://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in/

Sd/- Chief Superintendent
Central Prison, Kalaburagi

DIP/Kalaburagi/1231/MC&A/2022-23

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G20 भारत 2023 INDIA | सत्यमेव जयते Government of India | 75 Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

Karnataka at the Forefront of Defence Manufacturing

Dedication to the Nation of
India's Largest Helicopter Manufacturing Facility
HAL Helicopter Factory, Tumakuru and
Unveiling of Light Utility Helicopter

by

SHRI NARENDRA MODI

Hon'ble Prime Minister of India

6th February 2023 | **3:30 PM** | **HAL Helicopter Factory Campus, Biderehalla Kaval, Tumakuru, Karnataka**

BENEFITS OF THE PROJECT

The Greenfield helicopter factory will become a **one-stop** solution for **all helicopter** requirements of India

The production of **Light Utility Helicopter** (LUH), **Indian Multi Role Helicopter** (IMRH) and **Maintenance, Repair & Overhaul** of helicopters in the factory will further strengthen the **Indian Defence Forces**

The factory will produce more than **1,000** helicopters over the next two decades

Total business generation to the tune of ₹ **four lakh crores**

Generation of large number of **direct and indirect employment** in the region

The factory will boost the **helicopter manufacturing** ecosystem in Karnataka and the entire region

www.hal-india.co.in @HALHQBLR

Watch the event LIVE on DD News and DD Chandana

INBRIEF

'Village accountants will be named village administrators'

The State government has decided to rename the post of village accountant as village administrator, said Revenue Minister R. Ashok in Chikkamagaluru on Saturday. He spoke after laying the foundation stone for the district offices' complex. The village administrators would get Tablets for handling the responsibilities they had been assigned, he said. The Minister said the department had decided to digitise its documents. Further, he said the government had begun surveying land and properties using drones.

JD(S) to take out Pancharatna yatra in Hassan in March

The much anticipated Pancharatna Ratha yatra of Janata Dal (Secular) in Hassan district - one of the strongholds of the party - will take place in March even as the ticket distribution in the district has raised enough heat. Former Chief Minister and party leader H.D. Kumaraswamy on Sunday said that the ratha yatra will pass through Hassan, Mysuru and Bengaluru, and that the valedictory of the yatra will be held between March 20 and March 25. His announcement comes at a time when the party is yet to announce names of candidates for constituencies in Hassan district.

From Page One

Modi visiting Karnataka today

He will dedicate the nation's helicopter factory of the HAL and will lay the foundation stone for the Jal Jeevan Mission project at Chikkanayakanahalli and Tiptur. During his visits on January 12 and January 19, Mr. Modi visited Hubballi and Kalaburagi respectively during which he launched several development programmes.

The Prime Minister's visit this time is being seen with political curiosity as it comes after appointing poll in-charge and co-in-charge leaders.

It may be noted that Union Minister for Education Dharmendra Pradhan is party in-charge for the upcoming Assembly elections while Minister for Health and Family Welfare Mansukh Mandaviya and BJP Tamil Nadu unit president K. Annamalai are co-in-charge leaders. While Mr. Pradhan knows Karnataka politics well as he had worked earlier as in-charge general secretary of the State, Mr. Mandaviya is being seen as a leader who is close to both Mr. Modi and party's key strategist Amit Shah. Mr. Annamalai, a former IPS officer, served in various posts in Karnataka.

Political circles are interpreting these developments as an effort by the party high command to keep a tight grip on the party's poll preparations in Karnataka.

Employees unhappy with NPS to approach 7th Pay Commission

There are an estimated 2.6 lakh NPS staff in the State; they plan to individually and collectively send responses to the commission opposing the continuation of the National Pension Scheme

Sharath S. Srivatsa
BENGALURU

After launching a series of campaigns to bring pressure to scrap the National Pension Scheme (NPS), over two lakh employees under the NPS now are set to approach the 7th Pay Commission with their demands.

While the pay commission constituted under the chairmanship of former Chief Secretary K. Sudhakar Rao in November has not been tasked to go into the NPS issue, two of the questions in the questionnaire that it has circulated seeking response from employees, officials and public alike are related to NPS. The commission through a notification on January 17 has sought suggestions from government employees and pensioners for further simplification or improvement of NPS, and has also sought comment on the implementation of NPS from the principal secretaries and secretaries. There are an estimated 2.6 lakh NPS employees in Karnataka.

A file photo of members of the Karnataka State Government NPS Employees' Association staging a protest demanding implementation of the Old Pension Scheme, in Bengaluru.

"We will individually and collectively send our response to the commission opposing the continuation of the NPS. Government is also not responding to our demand after promising to convene a meeting of the Chief Minister with us," State Government NPS Employees' Association president Shantharam Teja told *The Hindu*. "Principally, we are opposed to NPS. The market volatility has kept us anxious. There is no other appropriate time than now as SBI and LIC, our fund managers, have lost huge sums in the Adani group investments in the last few days alone." The Karnataka SC/ST Government Employees' Association is also planning to raise its opposition to NPS with the pay commission.

33% of State revenue

According to the pay commission's notification, nearly 12% of the total State revenue or about ₹24,016 crore is estimated to be the outgo towards pension to retired employees or families of retired pension during 2022-2023. The salary to 5.11 lakh employees constitute about 21.7% of the State revenue or about ₹41,288 crore. There are a total of 2.58 lakh vacant posts of the total sanctioned strength of 7.69 lakh in Karnataka. This is in addition to grant in aid to meet the salary and pension of employees of aided educational institutions, local bodies and non-teaching staff in universities. The departmental heads have also been asked to furnish details about the estimated number of employees retiring till March 31, 2027.

Acknowledging that OPS is better from the employees perspective, a government official said that it was also true that some retiring employees have received meagre pension, depending on the length of service, how the money was invested and the returns on investment. "However, since there is no exit provision for the State, merely stopping contribution to NPS will further complicate the matter. The government cannot access the corpus fund as perceived, and individuals are allowed to withdraw only partially from the corpus," the official said.

War of words between JD(S) and BJP

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bharatiya Janata Party and Janata Dal (Secular) on Sunday were involved in a verbal altercation after JD(S) leader H.D. Kumaraswamy said that Union Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Pralhad Joshi belonged to a sect that killed Mahatma Gandhi.

Responding to an earlier statement by Mr. Joshi, who had suggested that the JD(S) Pancharatna Yatra should be renamed as 'Navagraha Yatra', the former Chief Minister said: "The sangh parivar has decided to make Mr. Joshi the Chief Minister. Mr. Joshi is not among those old time Brahmins, but belongs to those who divided Sringeri Mutt. He belongs to Maratha Peshwa community and among those who killed Gandhi. The other section of Brahmins belonging to Old Mysore region are those seeking good for all."

Mr. Kumaraswamy said that he belongs to those who divide the nation and kill those who have contributed to nation's development.

CM responds

In response, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai told reporters in Delhi that such statements were outdated and should speak about developments. "Individual and caste-based issues should not be referred to," he said.

Revenue Minister R. Ashok condemned the statement of Mr. Kumaraswamy, and pointed out at the sacrifices of Brahmins in freedom movement. "It is not right for the former Chief Minister to speak ill of any community and should apologise immediately. His statement shows that he is dejected that his party will not do well in the election."

'Rise above caste'

BJP spokesperson and MLC N. Ravi Kumar said that Mr. Kumaraswamy should rise above caste consideration, and pointed out that Brahmins leaders, including Savarkar, Ranade, Gopalakrishna Gokhale and Bal Gangadhar Tilak were in the forefront of freedom struggle.

"Mr. Joshi suggested that the rathyatra should be named as Navagraha yatra because there are nine politicians in H.D. Deve Gowda family, and the statement was appropriate," he told reporters in Bengaluru.

If Siddaramaiah becomes CM, he will put BJP leaders in jail: Kateel

The Hindu Bureau
HASSAN

Alleging that the Congress supported terrorist activities, Bharatiya Janata Party State president Nalin Kumar Kateel, on Saturday, said that if Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly Siddaramaiah becomes Chief Minister, all BJP leaders would be put behind bars.

Addressing a meeting of party workers in Shivamogga, Mr. Kateel said the Congress was a party of anti-nationals. The leaders of the party stood by the hijab. They supported the perpetrators of terror activity in Mangaluru. They opposed the laws that prohibited the slaughter of cows and religious conversion.

Nalin Kumar Kateel

"If Mr. Siddaramaiah assumes power, he will put Ayanur Manjunath, Nalin Kumar Kateel, K.S. Eshwarappa and other BJP members behind bars. During his rule in the past, people who wrote against the Congress on social media were arrested. Similar incidents would be repeated if the Congress assumes power," he said.

Divided house

Further, he remarked that the Congress was a divided house. The party would not win the elections, he said.

Cauvery to find a place in Cong. manifesto

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Congress will include optimum utilisation of Cauvery water in its poll manifesto, KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar said on Sunday.

"The fight for Cauvery water is not yet over. We will include it in poll manifesto," he said. He said that while over 400 tmcft of water is going waste, Tamil Nadu is using additional water without our permission. "There is a need to have a new legal fight in this regard," he said.

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No:SEE/T(W&M)/MYS/EEE(O)/AE-1/22-23/6337-38 Date: 04.02.2023

TENDER NOTIFICATION (e-Procurement mode only)

Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited invites Bids for the following work.

1) Bid Enquiry No:KPTCL/SEE/TCM/DRV/606 Dt:24.01.2023. Name of the Tender: Outsourcing the services of 7 Nos of drivers for 3 Light Motor Vehicles and 4 Heavy Motor Vehicles at various offices of KPTCL, Mysuru coming under the jurisdiction of Transmission (W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Mysuru.

The Bids will be received through electronic tendering mode only. The detailed notification regarding subject enquiry in the E-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** on hyperlink **"e-Procurement" or** to **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **07.02.2023.** Any other details can be had from the office of the undersigned during office hours.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Elecl.,)
Transmission (W&M) Circle, KPTCL,
Prasarana Bhavan, N.R.Mohalla, Mysuru-570 007.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ
ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ,
ಮೈಸೂರು–570 023
ಸಂ./ಕಾಅ/ಪಂ.ರಾ.ಇಂ.ವಿ/ಮೈ/ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್/ಸ.ಇಂ.

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ
22/2022–23/ದಿ: 27.01.2023

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು, ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮೈಸೂರುರವರು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ವಿದ್ಯುನ್ಮಾನ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆ ವೇದಿಕೆ ಮೂಲಕ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರುರವರ ಸಹಯೋಗದೊಂದಿಗೆ, CPWD/ /KPWD/WRDO/PRED and any other Government Organisationನಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿತರಾಗಿರುವ ಅಂದರೆ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕಡ್ಡಾಯವಾಗಿ ಎನ್‌ರೋಲ್ ಮಾಡಿರುವ 1ನೇ ದರ್ಜೆ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನಮೂನೆ KW-1, 2 & 4 ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಂತೆ 2022–23ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ "2022–23ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ 5054 ಲಮ್‌ಸಮ್ ಮಾನ್ಯ ಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳ ವಿಶೇಷ ಮಂಜೂರಾತಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ" ಯೋಜನೆ ಅನುದಾನದಡಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಮೈಸೂರು, ನಂಜನಗೂಡು ಮತ್ತು ತಿ.ನರಸೀಪುರ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಅನುಮೋದನೆಯಾಗಿರುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಸದರಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸಿ.ಸಿ. ರಸ್ತೆ ಮತ್ತು ಸಿ.ಸಿ. ಚರಂಡಿಗಳ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ/ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಾಗಿರುತ್ತವೆ. ಸದರಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಮೊತ್ತವು ರೂ.10.00 ದಿಂದ ರೂ.250.00 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಒಟ್ಟು 13 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಇದರಲ್ಲಿ 09 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿ/ಪಂಗಡ ವರ್ಗದ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಗೆ ಮೀಸಲಿರಿಸಿದ್ದು, ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಮೊತ್ತವು ರೂ.12,500/– ಗಳಿಂದ ರೂ.50,000/– ಗಳಾಗುತ್ತದೆ ಮತ್ತು 04 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ವರ್ಗದ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಗೆ ಮೀಸಲಿರಿಸಿದ್ದು ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಮೊತ್ತವು ರೂ.75,000/– ಗಳಿಂದ ರೂ.2.55.000.00/– ಗಳಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರಂಗೆ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಮತ್ತು ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಫಾರಂಗಳನ್ನು ಆನ್ ಲೈನ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ದಿ: 06.02.2023 ರಿಂದ 14.02.2023 ಸಂಜೆ 16.00 ಘಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟೀಕರಣ/ವಿಚಾರಿಸಿ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯಲು ಅಂತಿಮ ದಿ: 13.02.2023, 16.00 ಘಂಟೆಯಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿ: 15.02.2023ರ ಸಂಜೆ 17.00 ಘಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಫಾರಂ ಬೆಲೆ ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್‌ನಂತೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬೇಕು. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ವಿದ್ಯುನ್ಮಾನ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆ ವೇದಿಕೆ ಮೂಲಕ (e-procurement portal) ವೆಬ್ ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು https://eprockarnataka.gov.in ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಇನ್ನೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರು, ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಕುವೆಂಪುನಗರ, ಮೈಸೂರು (ಫೋನ್ ನಂ.0821–2560853) ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರು, ಪಂ.ರಾ.ಇಂ.ವಿಭಾಗ, ಮೈಸೂರು
DIPR/DDMYS/KSMCA/967/2022-23

CORRIDORS OF POWER

Officials go incommunicado

Election season brings with it excitement and challenges for journalists. In Karnataka, with Legislative Assembly elections to be held soon, media representatives are finding it increasingly difficult to reach Bengaluru civic body officials, including the usually accessible Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Chief Commissioner.

"Bengaluru is making headlines daily, almost always for the wrong reasons, exposing civic apathy. If the media asks questions which may affect the image of the government and the civic body, the official will be caught in a bind, with political bosses breathing down their neck," an official on condition of anonymity said.

After the misery rains brought to the city in mid last year and then potholes, and more recently sinkholes, there are a hundred embarrassing questions that officials will have to face, and sure enough, they want to avoid them now more than ever.

Political merry-go-round

Come election season and the political merry-go-round gains momentum. So it is in Mysuru where ahead of the Assembly elections, there is a flurry of activity with aspiring leaders, grassroots workers and ex-elected representatives with bloated self-importance waiting in the wings to get the coveted B-form to contest elections. And at the first sign of the rejection, they are willing to jump ship ostensibly to "serve society" while camouflaging their personal ambitions.

In a recent public meeting in Chamundeshwari constituency, a section of grassroots leaders who were with the Janata Dal (Secular) joined Congress. But they were transparent enough to declare that their political growth was stymied and hence they were joining the party. Needless to say, they also declared that they were influenced by the Congress ideology.

But former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah *(in picture)* who was present at the programme perhaps sensed their ambition and though he welcomed them into the party fold, made it clear that there were 11 aspirants from the constituency already and the B-form can be given only to one person based on "winnability factor''.

Whether the desire to "serve society" and the professed ideological conviction remains once the list of candidates is announced remains to be seen.

Darshan Devaiah B.P.
R. Krishna Kumar

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

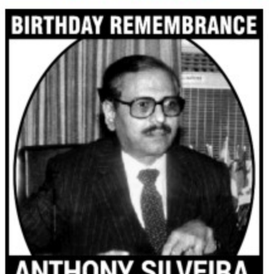
DEATH

SAD DEMISE

S. Gopalakrishnan
Retd. CGM BSNL,
passed away in Chennai on February 1 at his residence.
With deep sadness,
his grieving family.
Contact-9500070314/9940166155

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE



ANTHONY SILVEIRA
DGM (Retd) - IOB
06.02.1928 - 10.04.2008

"Your cherished memories will always remain in our hearts guiding and blessing us."

Remembered by :
GEETA P SHETTI
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Flat H/103, Satt Adhars
Basilio Complex, St. Inez,
Panaji, Goa - 403001
Mobile : 07715043211

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

Second Anniversary

Shri K. Narayanan
AMIE, Consulting Engineer
DOB: 26.10.1928 - DOD: 06.02.2021

You are missed dearly every day. Your values, courage and confidence guide us to move forward. Your life memories continue to inspire us. Feeling your love and presence in all we do. You will always remain in our thoughts and hearts forever.

Deeply missed and fondly remembered:
Wife, Sons, Daughters, Daughters-in-Law, Sons-in-law, Grandchildren, Brothers and Sisters

IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES

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‘No privatisation of discoms, but we will ensure consumers have a choice’

The government will bring in more competition among electricity distribution companies, says Union Power Minister R.K. Singh

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Union Power Minister R.K. Singh on Sunday said the Centre would not privatise power distribution companies (discoms); however, it would bring in competition in the distribution space, so that consumers would have multiple choices.

Addressing the media on the sidelines of the G20 Energy Transition Working Group here, the Minister said: “The government will not privatise power supply companies but will bring in more competition among electricity distribution companies.”

The present discoms will continue to remain, but they will be asked to compete with private players so that the consumers will have a choice, according to him.

“If a discom is not performing, the consumer can switch to somebody else who offers better service, just like you switch your mobile service provider. That’s my vision,” he said.

The Minister said the Electricity (Amendment) Bill 2022 was a step towards such a move. An option for multiple licensees to operate in the same area of supply had been provided under this law and this would allow competition.

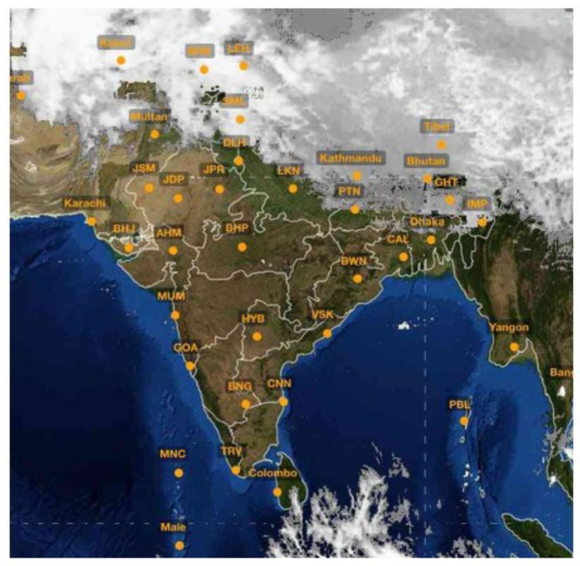
“The proposed amendment will ensure that there is a provision in law for multiple licensees to operate in the same area of power supply,” Mr. Singh added. The proposed amendment is currently under the scrutiny of a parliamentary committee.

ANOTHER REPORT
» PAGE 10

Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi, Union Power Minister R.K. Singh, NITI Aayog member V.K. Saraswat, and Power Secretary Alok Kumar during the first G20 Energy Transition Working Group meeting, in Bengaluru on Sunday. K. MURALI KUMAR

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 17.00 HRS)

Forecast for Monday: Dense fog likely in isolated pockets over Uttarakhand and Punjab. Thunderstorm accompanied with lightning and hail likely at isolated places over Arunachal Pradesh, Assam and Meghalaya.

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	27.0	12.6	Kozhikode	—	35.1	25.3
Ahmedabad	—	31.5	13.1	Kurnool	—	34.9	20.2
Aizawl	—	29.0	8.8	Lucknow	—	26.2	11.2
Allahabad	—	26.9	10.0	Madurai	—	33.8	21.0
Bengaluru	—	31.0	17.5	Mangaluru	—	34.0	22.6
Bhopal	—	26.7	10.5	Mumbai	—	30.0	20.5
Bhubaneswar	—	29.8	14.8	Mysuru	—	31.0	14.0
Chandigarh	—	24.6	11.3	New Delhi	—	24.4	12.1
Chennai	—	30.9	21.7	Patna	—	—	11.3
Coimbatore	—	33.2	19.4	Port Blair	—	31.1	25.7
Dehradun	—	25.2	9.6	Puducherry	—	31.5	19.8
Gangtok	—	15.2	8.1	Pune	—	33.0	14.3
Goa	—	35.2	21.0	Raipur	—	31.2	13.0
Guwahati	—	28.6	14.5	Ranchi	—	28.6	12.0
Hubballi				Shillong	—	18.1	7.1
Hyderabad	—	32.7	16.6	Shimla	—	16.0	6.2
Imphal	—	27.0	8.5	Srinagar	—	12.0	1.8
Jaipur	—	28.2	12.6	Thiruvananthapuram	0.4	33.0	24.6
Kochi	3.0	32.2	24.6	Tiruchi	—	31.4	21.0
Kohima	—	22.2	9.4	Vijayawada	—	31.0	20.8
Kolkata	—	27.2	15.0	Visakhapatnam	—	31.4	19.9

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing — **Yesterday**

Nil

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.05	.11	21	178	173	
Bengaluru	.08	.11	35	116	96	
Chennai	.24	.44	34	181	116	
Delhi	.12	126	40	323	226	
Hyderabad	.32	.20	58	153	151	
Kolkata	.07	.08	63	223	145	
Lucknow	.25	.49	46	203	164	
Mumbai	.—	.49	88	379	301	
Pune	.—	.22	44	333	206	
Visakhapatnam	.—	.77	88	266	298	

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Fans throng Vishnuvardhan Memorial

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

A week after it was inaugurated by Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, the Vishnuvardhan Memorial located at Udboor on the outskirts of Mysuru continues to draw the late actor’s fans in legions.

There is no let up in the crowd be it weekend or weekday and the fans tend to come not only from Mysuru and Bengaluru but from across the State.

The memorial constructed on a 5-acre plot has a museum displaying over 675 photographs of the actor culled out from various films in which he acted and is curated and displayed in a chronological order.

Fans of Vishnuvardhan at the site of his memorial on the outskirts of Mysuru on Sunday. M.A. SRIRAM

Embedded to the museum which is circular in shape is a pond which is open to sky in the middle of which is a giant “kadaga” or bracelet. Opposite the bracelet is the 7-ft-tall statue of Vishnuvardhan chiselled by Mysuru sculptor Arun Yogiraj.

The fans go around the museum admiring the photographs of the actor in his various roles, pause to discuss the scene with their fellow travellers or fans and end up taking a selfie in front of the photograph.

The more reverential among the fans make it a point to view each and every photograph on display before making their way to the statue. The caretaker ensures that nobody comes too close to the statue with the footwear on and fans who hold the site as sacred admire it from a distance and raise slogans in praise of the late actor and move on.

“The steady stream of fans is unabated since a week and the total footfall is 10,000 to 15,000 on an average,” said the local security staff deployed to guard the premises. “It is not only from Mysuru but fans come all the way from Chickballapur, Chitradurga, Ballari, Kalaburagi, Vijayapura and other districts of the State,” he added.

Outside the museum, coconuts are broken by fans in front of the giant cutouts of the actor while songs from movies acted by Vishnuvardhan are played on the loudspeaker.

After staging protest, KCR’s grandnephew freed on bail

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Chief Minister K.Chandrasekhar Rao’s grandnephew, Regulapati Ritish Rao, a National Students Union of India (NSUI) activist who was taken into custody along with others for staging a protest near the Assembly, got bail late on Saturday night.

A senior police official said that they had remanded only one youth named Balamoori Venkat while letting the others go.

THE HINDU

EDUCATIONPLUS

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Empower the youth

As society and workplaces transform, the skills required of youngsters must also evolve, says Dhuwarakha Sriram, Chief of Generation Unlimited (YuWaah), Adolescent/Youth Development and Partnerships at UNICEF India

Archana Subramanian
archana.subramanian@thehindu.co.in

A multi-stakeholder platform that aims to prepare youngsters to transition from education and learning to productive work and active citizenship, YuWaah was established in 2019 by UNICEF along with public and private sector organisations, UN agencies, civil society organisations among others, as part of the Generation Unlimited initiative.

Over the past three years, the organisation has aimed to create an ecosystem that equips young people to develop problem-solving skills, says Dhuwarakha Sriram, Chief of Generation Unlimited (YuWaah), Adolescent/Youth Development and Partnerships at UNICEF India. In this interview, she talks about the need to empower youngsters with life skills. Excerpts:

What are the initiatives YuWaah has launched recently?

YuWaah launched a series of programmes for young people such as Young People’s Action Team (YPAT), which gives young people representation at all governance levels within YuWaah including the Advisory Board; Passport2Earning, an initiative that provides continuous access to skilling, re-skilling, and upskilling requirements through online training, blended learning models, and offline engagement and engaging with government and partner organisations to provide career guidance to more than 20 million young people.

The organisation is also working on national youth policy, recommendations for the apprenticeship policy, and 21st-century skills framework, and, along with UNICEF, spearheading a partnership with the World Economic Forum to bring together 60 partners on working on gaps and key priorities on digital infrastructure for learning in India.

Why are employability and life skills critical for the youth?

Youth employment is critical for the social and economic stability and growth of any economy. Young people today are subject to extreme market volatility and uncertainty. Furthermore, COVID-19 and its aftermath have exacerbated the pre-existing conditions of the digital divide, and gender and urban-rural inequalities. As the world becomes more digital, there is a strong need to expand our academic curriculum to include life and employability skills and social-emotional learning for the 21st century. The school-to-work transition should be seen as a process that enables young people to move from education to productive and decent work. The way forward is to leverage technology to bridge the employability and employment gap. Democratising access to education and skills can be truly transformational, and we have seen many successful experiments worldwide using technology to provide job matching and end-to-end employment-related services to young people.

How can society help ease the education-to-employment transition?

By creating platforms that provide young people with an opportunity to connect with external experts and giving them access to tools, resources, and mentors that help them develop

Dhuwarakha Sriram. PHOTOS: SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT; GETTY IMAGES/ ISTOCKPHOTO

leadership capabilities. We should focus on capacity building and opportunities where young people can be a part of the decision-making processes. Work-integrated learning will enable an immersion into the role, giving them the opportunity to explore new and exciting roles as well as a medium to apply the theoretical knowledge learnt through formal and non-formal means.

However, education should not be just about preparing a young person for the world of work. It needs to be aimed towards enriching them as an individual, and as a member of a community. We need to equip our young people with the life skills that not only influence workplace productivity but also empower them to navigate the uncertainties, opportunities and dynamism of our current age.

Can you tell us about the life skills that youngsters need to develop?

In general, the youth need to develop a mix of foundational, transferable and technical and vocational skills. This should also involve digital skills and other interventions such as job search skills, career counselling and guidance and help with placements. Foundational skills include literacy and numeracy which are essential for further learning, productive employment and civic engagement. Transferable skills involve creativity, communication and problem-solving that allow them to be lifelong learners and adapt to rapid changes in society and the economy.

The forthcoming UNICEF Global Framework on Transferable Skills has categorised them as Cognitive (to do with thinking and includes the ability to focus, problem solve, make informed choices, and set plans and goals); Social (to do with interaction and includes the ability to communicate, collaborate, resolve conflict and negotiate); Emotional (to do with understanding and regulating one’s own emotions, coping with stress, understanding emotions of others, and the ability to empathise); Digital (to do with the use and understanding of technology, the ability to search for and manage information, communicate, collaborate, create and share content, build knowledge and solve problems safely, critically and ethically, in a way that is appropriate for their age, local language and local culture); and Technical and Vocational (to with one or more occupations). The wider the application of a skillset, the more flexible and responsive the holder can be in a changing labour market.

As the world becomes more digital, there is a strong need to expand our academic curriculum to include life and employability skills and social-emotional learning

Triangular in Tripura

The TIPRA Motha has added a new dimension to the Assembly election

If it was the rapid rise of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) that changed the political landscape of Tripura in 2018, the buzz now, five years later, is around the Tipraha Indigenous Progressive Regional Alliance (TIPRA) Motha, a regional party floated by former royalty Pradyot Bikram Manikya Debbarma, after leaving the Congress. As it happens, erstwhile arch rivals, the Left Front led by the CPI(M) and the Congress, are in an alliance that they say is essential to counter the rising tide of saffron in the State, which goes to the polls on February 16. The BJP did not match the high expectations that accompanied its swift rise in 2018, and, last year, replaced Biplab Kumar Deb with Manik Saha as Chief Minister to reanimate itself. In its 2018 win, the BJP had ended 25 years of Left Front rule by bagging 36 seats in the 60-member House. It is seeking re-election not so much based on its track record in the State, but by highlighting Prime Minister Narendra Modi's image, central schemes, claims about India's handling of COVID-19, its global economic clout, its G-20 leadership, and the central Budget. The Left-Congress alliance and the Motha have been raising issues of corruption, misuse of government machinery, the reign of fear, and unemployment to target the BJP. By warning people against parties trying to divide Tripura, and ignoring questions about its governance, the BJP is projecting the Motha as its main rival.

The Motha, which is contesting 42 seats, is expected to do well in the 20 tribal-dominated Assembly seats within the Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council where it has been in power since 2021. The offer of a pre-poll alliance by both the BJP and the Left-Congress alliance shows that the Motha is a force to reckon with. The Motha rejected the Left-Congress offer while negotiations with the BJP fell through after it declined to give in writing that it would grant a Greater Tipraland within the constitutional framework. The Left-Congress alliance supports the idea as long as it does not affect the State's territorial integrity but the BJP has rejected it, terming it divisive and designed to make tribals (31.8% of the State's 36.74 lakh population) and non-tribals drift apart. The Motha disagrees and points out that unlike tribe-based parties of the past, including the BJP's ally, the Indigenous People's Front of Tripura, it is more inclusive than the BJP; it also accuses the national party of "dividing people on the basis of religion, food". By fielding candidates in 22 non-tribal seats, the Motha has been trying to reiterate that it stands for "Tripura for all", stirring up the State's politics.

The tax gambit

Government should not stop nudging people towards safe, long-term savings

Much ink has been spilled by now on the Budget's hike in the tax-free ceiling under the new income tax system introduced in 2020, to ₹7 lakh from ₹5 lakh, with lower tax rates for those who give up existing tax exemptions. Experts outline varying arithmetic to determine at what levels of income and savings taxpayers should consider to switch to the new "default" regime. The Opposition has raised concerns that the government eventually wants to do away with the exemptions that "give some social security to the middle class" altogether. Industry captains are worried this may affect the savings rate and hit investments. So far, government mandarins have said, among other things, that the savings rate would not be affected; lower income earners do not save enough to avail the tax exemptions and end up paying higher rates. "As an adult, you have to be the best judge on what suits you," Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman summed up on Saturday. All of them are individually valid arguments. However, the bigger picture needs to factor in that many are not in a position to be the best judge for themselves – especially not the lower income earners who the government believes will benefit the most in the new tax system.

India's literacy and financial literacy levels mean many taxpayers cannot deem the right mix of consumption and savings, leave alone directing savings into an appropriate medley of safe as well as inflation-beating investments. Adult humans do not behave as rationally as economists would assume. For instance, there is a propensity towards more conspicuous consumption among the youth who may find the new tax regime with higher take-home salaries alluring. Financial products are routinely mis-sold to those not equipped to understand market nuances and the risks embedded in fine print. In a country that cannot yet provide universal social security and health benefits, the old exemption-based regime helps guide families towards some level of prudent asset allocation to cope with life's uncertainties, with a leg-up for building a critical asset over their working lives – a roof over their head. India's retail participation in stocks may have risen in recent years, but not everyone can handle the risks of equity markets or avoid being conned by influencer-operators. So the nudge away from the old tax regime must be accompanied by greater financial literacy efforts from the government and regulators and a crackdown on unethical selling practices that could lead to people ending up in penury. If people did not need the government's prodding to act in their own best interest, there would have been no need for mandatory contributions to provident funds and pensions.

India's just energy transition is more than a coal story

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Just Energy Transition Partnership (JET-P) is emerging as the key mechanism for multilateral financing by developed countries to support an energy transition in developing countries. This has taken on particular significance following the insertion of the phrase 'phase-down' of coal in the Glasgow Pact. After South Africa, Indonesia, and Vietnam, India is considered the next candidate for a JET-Partnership. India's G-20 presidency could potentially be an opportune moment to forge a deal. However, India must develop a coherent domestic just energy transition (JET) strategy in order to negotiate a financing deal that addresses its unique set of socio-economic challenges. So, what would a JET strategy for India look like? What can India offer and seek from a multilateral JET-Partnership?

Issues that concern transitions

Energy transitions could give rise to intra-generational, intergenerational, and spatial equity concerns. Transitions affect near-term fossil-dependent jobs, disrupt forms of future energy access, shrink State's capacity to spend on welfare programmes, and thus exacerbate existing economic inequities between coal and other regions.

Existing JET-P deals, pay limited attention to intra-generational inequity, such as job losses resulting from a coal phase-down. However, among the three JET-P deals signed so far, only South Africa's deal mentions a 'just' component – funding reskilling and alternative employment opportunities in the coal mining regions – to be financed as part of the initial $8.5 billion mobilisation. The other two JET-Ps (Indonesia and Vietnam) are focused on mitigation finance for sector-specific transitions.

Initial JET-P negotiations for India last year have reportedly remained stalled over whether and how India should consider coal 'phase-down' and how to operationalise India's just transition. The emphasis by developed countries' on coal phase-down, without adequate attention to country context, disregards the crucial difference in energy transition between industrialised and emerging economies. Energy transition in the industrialised world involves a natural tapering of energy consumption alongside fuel switching to clean energy sources; India's transition requires significant simultaneous growth in energy demand. The Central Electricity Authority projects a near doubling of electricity demand by 2030. A country that is likely to multiply its energy demand requires adequate supply from a diverse mix of sources. India cannot afford to put its development on hold while decarbonising.

> India's G-20 presidency is an opportunity for New Delhi to negotiate a deal for itself while also shaping international cooperation on just energy transitions

The path to a clean energy quest

India has signalled a commitment to clean energy with ambitious targets like 500GW of non-fossil, including 450 GW renewable energy (RE) capacity addition and 43% RE purchase obligation by 2030. These targets are supported through complementary policy and legislative mandates (Energy Conservation (Amendment) Act), missions (National Green Hydrogen Mission), fiscal incentives (production-linked incentives) and market mechanisms (upcoming national carbon market). These interventions show India's serious efforts at energy transition, but additional supplementary measures are needed for a coherent JET strategy.

Here are three sets of actions that could further expedite India's energy transition while also addressing domestic developmental priorities, and justice and equity concerns.

First, acceleration in RE deployment rates to match the pace of demand growth is critical to India's JET. While RE deployment has outpaced coal in recent years, in 2021-22, coal power served one-third of the new demand. Meeting India's 2030 target requires accelerating non-fossil capacity addition from 16 GW a year in 2022 to 75 GW a year by 2030, a 22% year-on-year growth. Despite sustained efforts India missed its 2022 target for 175 GW RE capacity. The gap is largely in decentralised deployment, which is more promising for acceleration.

We suggest two complementary paths to accelerate RE deployment that can have significant developmental co-benefits. A low-hanging option is shifting energy demand patterns in ways that enable faster RE capacity addition: solarisation of agricultural electricity demand; electrification of diesel-powered Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs); and decentralised RE for residential cooking and heating. Stimulation of energy demand through rural productivity enhancement will further aid RE acceleration as well as help to address the rural-urban economic divide, create rural jobs, and thereby address inter-generational and spatial inequities.

Second, domestic manufacturing of clean energy components is critical to sustain a JET, build energy self-sufficiency, and tap the green jobs promise of 21st century energy. While India has recognised the importance of domestic manufacturing, the challenge is in achieving cost competitiveness – Indian components are 20% costlier than Chinese components. Giving preference to domestic components without addressing cost competitiveness may slow down the pace of deployment. The way around this is to negotiate access to markets outside India as part of a JET-Partnership, to reduce the cost gap through economies of scale.

On coal use

Third, there is a case for re-aligning the current use of coal resources to enhance efficiencies until the period of phase-down. One option is to optimise use of coal-fired power plants closer to where coal is mined rather than based on energy demand in States. This would enable coal to be used more efficiently because transportation of coal is more energy-intensive than transmission of electrons, and also lead to fewer emissions. It would also lead to cheaper power, as transportation accounts for one-third of the cost of coal for power plants; the resultant savings could also help finance much needed emission control retrofits. Finally, and not least, it would indirectly reduce emissions due to more efficient use of coal.

Moreover, by using coal more efficiently, this policy shift opens the door to India considering a future cap on coal-powered generation capacity. Current generation capacity plus plants in the pipeline are adequate to meet India's projected requirement in 2030. Low capacity utilisation factor (58% in 2022) further allows the possibility of greater use of existing plants to match future demand. By leading to cheaper and more efficient power, the coal re-alignment proposed here helps address energy security concerns, making it possible to even consider a future coal-based power capacity cap.

These measures will not only address equity concerns across various dimensions but also create new job opportunities, achieve emissions reduction and prepare the country for deeper decarbonisation through a future coal phase-down. However, as has been stressed by many, the investment requirements for this transition are beyond the means of domestic mobilisation for developing countries. Any future JET-P deal must consider this broader framework for financing and supporting an energy transition. With India holding the G-20 presidency, it has an opportunity at hand to negotiate a deal for itself while also shaping international cooperation on just energy transitions.

The views expressed are personal

Finding screen space for Dalit-Bahujan cinema

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In 2022, the box-office debacle of big-budget populist Hindi films (*Cirkus*, *Laal Singh Chaddha*, *Dhaakad* and *Samrat Prithviraj*) offers a clue that cinemagoers are rejecting the '*masala*-clad' mindless cinema and are looking for newness and artistic calibre. Though there were other releases such as *Gangubai Kathiawadi*, *Jhund*, *Anek* and *Salaam Venky* that have engaged with serious issues of marginalised communities, sadly, these films have not emerged as a popular genre, making it a new alternative in Bollywood cinema. Cinemagoers still find meaning mainly in the conventional slapstick entertainment and often ignore the socially relevant films.

A 'meaningful' genre

The recent arrival of a small but impressive genre of Dalit-Bahujan cinema is a welcome attempt to change the taste of cinema goers. This cinematic mode wishes to entertain the audience with creative narratives, clubbed with the values of realism and social responsibility. However, it is too early to suggest that this 'responsible and meaningful' genre will bring in radical change. Therefore, a conscious and intelligent audience, especially Dalit-Bahujan viewers, has to promote this new initiative for more nuance to cinematic narratives.

There are almost no studies about the demography of the Hindi cinema audience. It is well known that Hindi mainstream cinema as well as experimental or art-house cinema often cater to the cultural taste and social interest of the middle-class social elites. Popular cinema hardly represents the aspirations and values of the Dalit-Bahujan social groups. In the post-liberalisation phase, especially with the arrival of multiplex theatres, the middle class and elite audience may have emerged as the main patrons of films and theatres, relegating the Dalit-Bahujan audience to the sidelines.

If one looks at the advent of cinema in India, one finds that artists and technicians from Maharashtra, Punjab had an influential role in the Hindi film industry. In the post-Partition period, artists (particularly from the erstwhile Punjab province) moved to Bombay, subtly dominating the film business. Popular actors and directors (Prithviraj Kapoor, Dileep Kumar, Raj Khosla, Vijay Anand, and Dharmendra) became the leading figures who defined the foundational norms of Hindi cinema. Their cinema celebrated the values of secular nationalism and socialism and narrated stories that resonated with the poor classes. Importantly, the dynamic presence of Parsi and Muslim film-makers such as Firozshah Mistry, Ardeshir Irani, Sohrab Modi, Khwaja Ahmad Abbas, Mehboob Khan, etc. established the 'Muslim social' genre as the integral part of Hindi cinema.

> In its long history, Hindi cinema has cleverly avoided reflecting on issues of caste-based violence, social discrimination and emerging Dalit aspirations

The rich contributions by the Punjabi, Parsi and Muslim film-makers have led to the creation of a secular audience for cinema – their stories revolved around the social and cultural issues of the Muslims (*Pakeezah*), the poor migrant working class (*Awaara*) and women (*Bandini*), making cinema a responsible art form for social change. However, the caste and Dalit question often remained peripheral during the 'golden age'.

In the mid-1970s, art-house cinema further enriched Hindi cinema with its nuanced depiction of urban poverty (*Chakra*), issues of migrant labour (*Disha*), unemployment (*Salim Langde Pe Mat Ro*) and patriarchy (*Nishant*). The social questions of feudal exploitation (*Manthan*), caste violence (*Damul*) and Dalit repression (*Giddh*) too gathered momentum in this phase. Unfortunately, the parallel cinema movement failed to create an audience that could make meaningful cinema more popular among the masses. Hindi cinema, in the later phase, divorced itself from socially relevant cinema and emerged as a pillar of the entertainment industry, by often serving the base emotions and patriarchal values of filmgoers.

As the article, "Dalit Representation in Bollywood", and other pieces by critics highlight, the long history of Hindi cinema mostly revolves around the representation of the upper caste identities, brahmanical cultural rituals and Hindu aesthetics as the natural assets of the protagonist. It cleverly avoids reflecting on the issues of caste-based violence, social discrimination and emerging Dalit aspirations. Instead, in most cases, it imposes a structured narrative meant to address the emotive and psychological concerns of the Hindu social elites. Hindi films are often written, directed and produced by the social elites that overtly celebrate populist and non-artistic banal cinema. Even film critics, historians and scholars have studied cinema as popular art that is disconnected from rugged conflicting social realities. Bollywood, in the most visible way, is devoid of creative freedom, honesty and the passion to break conventional norms which can eventually produce a radical art form that is closer to the aspirations and the interests of the Dalit-Bahujan mass.

The task ahead

With the box-office success of films such as *Sairat*, *Kabali*, *Masaan*, *Jai Bhim*, *Article 15*, and, recently, *Kantara*, it was expected that cinema-makers would adopt Dalit-Bahujan narratives as a mainstream mode of film-making and engage the general audience. And, technicians, artists and producers who belonged to the Dalit-Bahujan communities would also contribute in bringing newer nuances in film narratives and democratise the hegemony of the social elites. However, for this to happen, a critical and sensitive Dalit-Bahujan audience will have to emerge as an intellectual audience, critically engaging with the the entertainment business. A discerning Dalit-Bahujan cinema audience will have to endorse a cinematic alternative that represents its social, cultural and political aspirations without diluting much of the entertainment quotient.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Balloon adventure

From planes to drones and now balloons — there seem to be quite a few targets for practice in the global shooting range in the game of diplomatic fencing. With the Chinese balloon over the U.S. leading to U.S. Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken cancelling a visit of significance to Beijing, one hopes that the clock does not move back to the 1960s, the peak of the Cold War era. In an age of state-of-the-art satellite surveillance and digital house breaking, the balloon incident may look to be nothing more than a kite festival between two superpowers, but the fact is that it could have meandered into serious conflict. One inane misadventure over Ukraine has been enough to show how nations are inexorably drawn down the morass of a politico-economic muddle. Nations no longer produce leaders of vision and substance. The United Nations too represents the collective inability to rise to challenges.

R. Narayanan,
Navi Mumbai

China is not for global peace, as the episode involving its so-called weather balloon 'floating' into U.S. territory shows. It is fortunate that nothing untoward happened as the balloon was over a military-sensitive zone.

V. Lakshmanan,
Tirupur, Tamil Nadu

Vani Jairam

The passing of singer Vani Jairam is a shock to a sea of her fans. Her matchless singing resonated across the length and breadth of the country. She was a cultural colossus and much respected.

Rajamani Chelladurai,
Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu

India and the world have lost a melody queen. Who can forget one of her masterpieces, "*Malligai enn mannan mayangum ponnaana malarallavo*" (*Dheerga Sumangali*), which reverberated in every corner of Tamil Nadu?

A. Jainulabdeen,
Chennai

The renowned singer had a brilliant vocal range, evoking many emotions. Her songs, "*Bole Re Papihara*" (Hindi) and "*Nathamenum Kovilile*" (*Manmadha Leelai*, Tamil), are outstanding.

R. Sivakumar,
Chennai

I grew up with this song, "*Naane Naana Yaro Thana*" (*Azhage Unnai Aarathikkiren*, Tamil), which Doordarshan Madras used to play in the 1980s — it was a soulful rendition.

Lekha Menon Chatterjee,
Mumbai

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address.

Are Kerala PSEs a boon or bane?

The role of public sector enterprises (PSEs) has been strategic and ideological. Although they have played a strategic role in the evolution of the Indian economy, of late they have lost significance. However, Kerala, with 153 enterprises, has accorded a respectable place to PSEs in its economic landscape. Of them, 31 have been transferred, closed, merged, or remain inactive. The effective number in 2020-2021 was only 116, with 10 of them being added in the fiscal year which was under the grip of the pandemic. This article attempts an evaluation of the contributions of these enterprises to the economy of the State, counted as among the five 'most fiscally vulnerable States' by the Reserve Bank of India.

M.A. Oommen

is Honorary Fellow, Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, and Distinguished Fellow, Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation, Thiruvananthapuram

A disqueting story

A reliable data base is not only the handmaid of good policymaking, but is also a powerful tool for public scrutiny. On this score, Kerala PSEs have been a big failure because in 2020-21, only 19 PSEs provided audited accounts. The arrear lag ranges from one year to six.

The important financial parameters based on the report, 'A Review of Public Enterprises in Kerala 2020-21', tell a disquieting story. In 2020-21, the turnover of all the working PSEs was ₹34,365 crore (some 4.3% of the GSDP). This was ₹2,199 crore lower than the previous year. This is a serious fall because employment increased from 1.29 lakh in 2019-20 to 1.33 lakh in 2020-21; and investment by 10.05%. More importantly, the average investment per employee increased, while the average profitability per employee registered a loss. For the three public utilities alone – Kerala State Electricity Board (KSEB), Kerala State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) and Kerala Water Authority (KWA) – the loss was ₹1.67 lakh per employee.

The return on investment in 2020-21 was -15.8% per annum. This is an unsustainable loss for a State which chose to invest 8.5% of GSDP in PSEs. That, in this year, the State government gave grants and subsidies to the tune of ₹4,697 crore (an increase of 1,471%) besides a Central government grant of ₹1,655 crore (a step up of 156%) cannot be ignored. This is besides a generous 234% increase in budgetary support (₹7,066 crore) from the government in 2020-21 compared to the previous year. This leverage was to succour PSEs to stay alive. The imprudent use of taxpayers' money during the health crisis needs a convincing explanation.

The continuing net worth erosion of PSEs is a running sore. Net worth means paid-up capital, all reserves, write back of depreciation minus accumulated losses, and deferred expenditure. The net worth loss of ₹5,696 crore in 2018-19 more than doubled to ₹11,630 crore in 2020-21. These numbers are net for all the PSEs. But if the three public utilities alone are considered, the net worth loss was ₹18,611 crore. Besides the public utilities, the Cashew Development Corporation was the largest loss maker. The net worth of enterprises such as the Tourism Development Corporation was fully negative. The industrial policy reform, reportedly underway, will have to take note of these realities.

That the PSEs contributed ₹13,328 crore to the State exchequer by way of taxes and duties in 2020-21, which accounts for 28% of the own tax revenue of the State, is significant. That this big share from PSEs, which generally do not evade taxes, is indicative of the poor tax mobilisation effort also needs to be mentioned.

At this stage a few general remarks seem to be in place. There is no clear linkage between the massive financial and physical investment made and the actual performance on the ground. That the government departments which administered most of these enterprises have not always left the management to experts is a misadventure. The norm that public resources should be spent with efficiency, wisdom and prudence has been observed in its breach. The size structure and output composition of the PSEs are uneven and do not display a rational mix. Nearly 70% of the enterprises had a turnover below ₹50 crore. Along with the KSEB, which accounted for 42% of the total turnover, the Civil Supplies Corporation, Financial Enterprises and the Beverages Corporation, which follow immediately in turnover ranking, made a total of 73%. Nearly 78% of the total investments were also accounted for by the three public utilities. While power supply and provisioning of essential commodities have important social objectives to perform, the production and sale of liquor and chitties are probably not the priority areas to attract 'sovereign' allocations. It is a matter for consideration whether the government should step into areas that do not promote common good, spread effects, and other strategic needs.

With the private sector reluctant to invest, especially in manufacturing, Kerala youth look to the public services as a great job provider. KSEB, KSRTC and KWA, alone account for 52% of employment. Cashew nut processing was once the leading employment provider in the private sector. Today, with regard to negative net worth, this sector is next to KSRTC and KSEB followed by the Civil Supplies Corporation. These four enterprises accounted for ₹26,420 crore of net worth loss. All public watchdogs including the trade unions remain silent on this. The four also made a total loss of ₹2,813 crore in 2020-21 (54% of all the loss-making ventures). If social ownership of any production or service fails to deliver common good, including triggering a multiplier effect to catalyse more investment and employment, then it remains as a millstone around the fiscal neck of the State. This sector demands rigorous scrutiny and radical reforms.

Important financial parameters show that this sector needs significant scrutiny and radical reforms

The Congress's house is not in order

The party's troubles in Kerala go beyond the resignation of Anil Antony

STATE OF PLAY

Biju Govind
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When the controversy over the BBC's documentary on Prime Minister Narendra Modi broke out, Anil K. Antony, son of former Defence Minister and Congress Working Committee member A.K. Antony, caused an uproar in the party circles by criticising the British national broadcaster for undermining India's sovereignty.

Mr. Anil Antony, who faced online abuse and calls for retracting his tweet, subsequently stepped down as the digital media convener of the Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee and national coordinator of the All India Congress Committee (AICC) Social Media and Digital Communications Cell.

Incidentally, Mr. Anil Antony made these remarks on the same day that AICC leader Rahul Gandhi questioned the ban on the documentary, which claims to have investigated some aspects relating to the 2002 Gujarat riots when Mr. Modi was Gujarat Chief Minister.

Even after his resignation from these posts, Mr. Anil Antony continued his broadside against the BBC on social media. He said the BBC is known to repeatedly use truncated maps of India without Kashmir, and termed it as a perfect ally for the current Congress leadership. He also targeted AICC general secretary Jairam Ramesh and spokesperson Surpiya Shrinate.

These developments may have caused some satisfaction in the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) at the national level given that Mr. Anil Antony is the son of a veteran Congress leader, who is a steadfast loyalist of

the Gandhi family. Whether his views, aired in public, will win some brownie points with the BJP is yet to be seen.

The episode suddenly propelled Mr. Anil Antony into the national limelight even as the Congress in Kerala is struggling to deal with the rising profile of its Thiruvananthapuram MP, Shashi Tharoor, in State politics. Mr. Tharoor's recent activities and views suggest that he is aspiring to be a contender for the post of Chief Minister in the next Assembly polls, which has caused some dissatisfaction among senior State Congress leaders. By all accounts, Mr. Anil Antony is Mr. Tharoor's admirer. But while Mr. Tharoor's acceptance among Kerala's middle class is high, Mr. Anil Antony is yet to experience the rough and tumble of electoral politics and does not enjoy the same appeal.

The young Antony's resignation letter has also sent out the message that the Kerala Congress leadership is uncertain about its political position after the United Democratic Front, which it led, failed to return to power in the 2021 Assembly polls. Not only has the Congress failed to impress the public with its stringent anti-Modi posture, but has also been unable to effectively deploy its machinery to muster enough support to take on the ruling Communist Party of India (Marxist)-led Left Democratic Front in Kerala.

Many thought that a change of guard at the helm of the KPCC and the Legislative Party after the 2021 Assembly polls would result in some good for the party. The new leadership did have bold solutions. It sought to remodel the party as a semi-cadre apparatus and chalked out plans to expand the coalition. But soon the leaders went back to their old ways, leaving the party riven by internal conflicts. While the various factions of the Congress were united during the Kerala leg of the Bharat Jodo Yatra, this oneness was overshadowed by the din of leaders airing public comments on different political issues. Leaders have also been openly debating chief ministership after the 2026 polls.

The Congress was once controlled by two powerful groups, led by former Chief Ministers A.K. Antony and K. Karunakaran; it is now divided into multiple factions. Its political troubles appear deep-rooted: leaders seem insecure and apprehensive, and the organisational set-up in the lower rungs is almost defunct. Several MPs are wary about their future and are waiting in the wings to shift to State politics. Simultaneously, the CPI (M) is making overtures to its rival coalition partner, the Indian Union Muslim League, after establishing a direct line with the Samastha Kerala Jemiyyathul Ulema leaders.

Political observers feel that there is a crab mentality in the Congress leadership. The process of organisational polls is stuck, as leaders have little clue as to how to go about it. Many local-level leaders have started to walk out before being elbowed out. Unless the leadership collectively and consciously decides to get its house in order, the party risks being routed in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls.

The discrepancies in the latest AISHE report

Significant inconsistencies were observed in population projections and Gross Enrolment Ratio calculations

DATA POINT

Pon Vasanth B.A. & Vignesh Radhakrishnan

The recently released All-India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) 2020-21 report had revised the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in higher education retrospectively for the previous four years, by recalculating it based on population projections as per the 2011 Census. Previous reports had used projections based on the 2001 Census.

GER, expressed as a percentage, is calculated by dividing the total enrolment in higher education courses by the projected population in the 18-23 age group. Based on these retrospective revisions, the GER of most States and India went up or down between 2016 and 2019. However, a comparison of the population projections used in the AISHE 2020-21 report with the Census of India (CoI)'s Report by a Technical Group on Population Projection, released in July 2020, shows variations. The CoI report is used by various ministries. In fact, the Education Ministry, which released the AISHE report, has ascertained the population in the 18-23 age group using the CoI report. The same is on its website.

Chart 1 shows Tamil Nadu's population projection used in the AISHE 2020-21 report between 2016 and 2020 and the population projection based on the CoI report. For the first four years, there are sharp deviations between the two projections. The figures based on the CoI report show a gradual decline between 2016 and 2020, whereas the population figures in the AISHE 2020-21 show an increase for the first four years and a sharp drop in 2020.

Despite both the reports using the 2011 Census for population projections, the numbers vary widely. Given that the projected population forms the denominator in the GER calculation, that figure too changed significantly.

Chart 2 shows Tamil Nadu's GER in higher education according to the AISHE 2020-21 report based on the 2011 Census and the State's GER according to the AISHE 2019-20 report, based on the 2001 Census. Across all the years, GER was revised downwards in the recent report. Specifically, according to the old report, in 2019-20, Tamil Nadu's GER had crossed 50%, which was marked as a key achievement by a major State. This has been revised to 49% in the latest report (2020-21).

Notably, even if the population projections given in AISHE 2020-21 were used to calculate GER, the numbers do not match with the ones given in the report. **Table 3** calculates GER using the population projections (B) and the enrolment figures (A), both taken from the AISHE 2020-21 report for Tamil Nadu. The calculated figures (C) by the data team do not match with the ones stated in the report (D).

Moreover, in Himachal Pradesh, the projected population in the 18-23 age group for 2019 was revised upwards by 6% in the AISHE 2020-21 report compared to the AISHE 2019-20 report. However, despite this revision, the State's GER for 2019 remained the same (40.8%) in both the reports.

Though Tamil Nadu was used as an example to highlight these discrepancies in the latest AISHE survey, as shown in **Graphs 4A and 4B**, such variations in population projections and GER calculations were recorded in other States as well. For instance, as shown in **Chart 4A,** the difference in population numbers between the latest AISHE figures and the CoI's numbers for 2016 in Uttar Pradesh was more than 8 lakh. As shown in **Chart 4B,** a difference of 2.3% points was observed between the calculated GER and the GER stated in the latest AISHE report in Himachal Pradesh for 2019.

Varying figures

The charts are based on data collated from the All India Survey on Higher Education 2020-21 (uses population projections based on 2011 Census) and 2019-20 (uses 2001 Census) reports

Chart 1 | Tamil Nadu's population projection (18-23 age group) used in the AISHE 2020-21 report and the CoI report

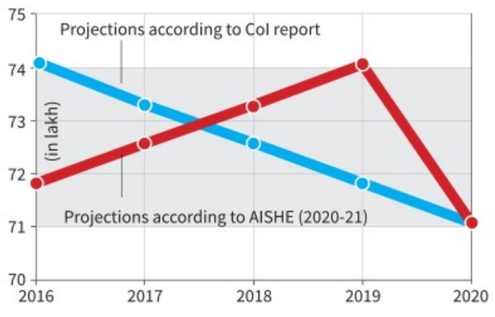


Chart 2 | Tamil Nadu's GER in higher education according to the AISHE 2019-20 and AISHE 2020-21 reports

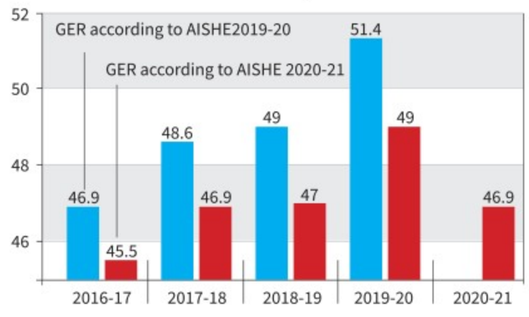


Table 3

^^ for 18-23 age group based on 2011 Census | ^ Enrolment for higher education courses

Year	A	B	C	D	E
	Enrolment^ as per latest AISHE report	Projected population^^ as per latest AISHE report	Calculated GER (A/B*100)	GER as per latest AISHE report	Difference (D-C)
2020	33,36,439	71,07,800	46.9	46.9	**0**
2019	35,20,311	74,07,000	47.5	49	**+1.5**
2018	34,14,196	73,32,200	46.6	47	**+0.4**
2017	34,40,945	72,57,400	47.4	46.9	**-0.5**
2016	33,71,351	71,82,600	46.9	45.5	**-1.4**

Chart 4A | The difference in population projections between the latest AISHE figures and the CoI's numbers

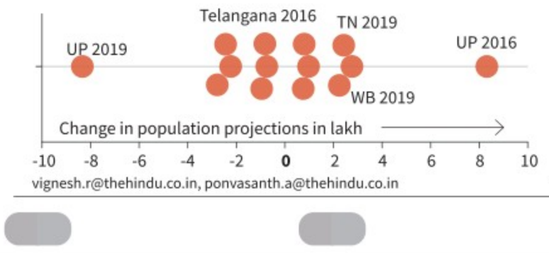
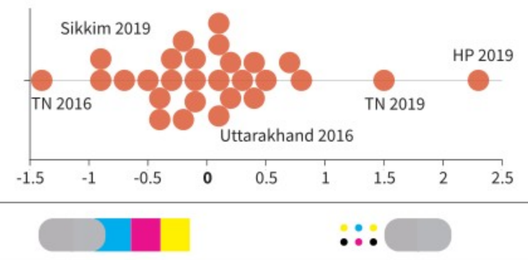


Chart 4B | The difference between the calculated GER and the GER stated in the latest AISHE report



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FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO FEBRUARY 6, 1973

Ban on soda water bottles hits thousands

Vijayawada, Feb. 5: The blanket ban on the manufacture and sale of aerated water bottles (soda) in some of the Coastal Andhra districts has come as a bombshell to thousands of families who eke out their living by dispensing the popular drink costing around five paise a bottle. The ban has been imposed by the district authorities in the context of the moves to intensify the separate Andhra agitation. Of late, soda water bottles have been used by the agitators as their weapon against CRP men particularly. A soda water bottle is deadlier than a stone in that its splinters travel multi-directionally and injure a large number of people. In some cases, the bottles are reinforced with pins and needles. Some CRP men reportedly call them water bombs. In Vijayawada alone, there are said to be about 4,000 bottling machines and each machine helps at least two families to earn their livelihood. The earnings average Rs. 2.50 a day for a boy who obtains them from the manufacturer for a commission of 36 paise a dozen bottles. The district authorities have also ordered the surrender of the carbon dioxide gas cylinders to the nearest police station. Those who have cylinders wonder whether the police can take care of their vulnerable cylinders.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO FEBRUARY 6, 1923

Gambling in Bombay

Poona, Feb 5: As the result of a Police raid on Saturday on a bucket shop carried on in the Main street in Poona Cantonment, 89 persons made their appearance today before Major Thorne, Cantonment Magistrate. These included the man in charge of the premises named Udhav Pandesa and others appeared to be punters who were alleged to have been in the place for the purpose of backing horses running in Bombay on the first day of the Bombay races. The police are stated to have collected over Rs. 3000 from the shop and from the pockets of those in it at the time. The case was not proceeded with as the chief accused asked for time in order to enable him to get legal advice as to the legality of the new Bombay Gambling Act. The adjournment was granted, bail being allowed.

From Page One

China warning after U.S. shoots down balloon

In a background briefing, a senior U.S. defence official said that an F-22 fighter aircraft from Langley Air Force Base in Virginia shot down the balloon off the coast of South Carolina and within U.S. airspace on Saturday afternoon (early Sunday in India), firing a single AIM-9X sidewinder missile from an altitude of 58,000 feet.

'Obvious overreaction'
The shooting down brought a sharp response from Beijing. The Chinese Foreign Ministry said on Sunday that it "strongly disapproves of and protests against the U.S. attack on a civilian unmanned airship by force."

"The U.S. used force to attack China's civilian unmanned airship, which was an obvious overreaction," added People's Liberation Army Senior Colonel Tan Kefei, spokesperson for China's Ministry of Defence. "We solemnly protest this move by the U.S. side and reserve the right to take necessary measures to deal with similar situations," he said.

The senior U.S. defence official said that a plan was developed to shoot down the balloon once it was over water in U.S. airspace as "military commanders determined that there was undue risk of debris causing harm to civilians while the balloon was over land."

'Stopped balloon's return to China'
"We also took immediate steps to protect against the balloon's collection of sensitive information, mitigating its intelligence value to the PRC [People's Republic of China]," the official said. "Shooting the balloon down addressed the surveillance threat posed to military installations and further neutralised any intelligence value it could have produced, preventing it from returning to the PRC."

The official added that "the surveillance balloon's overflight of U.S. territory was of intelligence value" as the U.S. was "able to study and scrutinise the balloon and its equipment".

U.S. officials noted that similar Chinese surveillance balloons had previously been observed in South Asia and East Asia and "violated the sovereignty of other countries". Last year, a surveillance balloon of similar appearance had been sighted in the skies above the Andaman Islands in the Indian Ocean.

Pervez Musharraf passes away in the UAE

Musharraf had been living in the UAE for more than six years, in virtual exile after a Pakistani court framed charges of treason against him for his imposition of emergency in 2007. His family plans to take him back home for his final journey, and his funeral will be held in Karachi on Tuesday.

Widespread allegations
General Musharraf faced many controversies during his tenure. He was alleged to have brought false cases against the entire Pakistani political leadership, including Benazir Bhutto, Nawaz Sharif and Imran Khan, and to have unconstitutionally dismissed the Chief Justice of Pakistan Ifthikar Chaudhury and about 100 other judges. Other allegations were that Musharraf orchestrated the "disappearance" of hundreds of activists and fighters; killed Baloch leader Akbar Bugti using a drone, as part of a brutal crackdown on the insurgent movement in Balochistan; allowed the U.S. to use Pakistani bases to bomb thousands in Pushtun areas during the 'War against Terror'; and conspired to destroy evidence in the Benazir Bhutto assassination trial, where he was declared a fugitive by the court.

General Musharraf had defended his actions, claiming that he had fought corruption and "restored" grassroots democracy.

Mixed legacy
In India, the General's legacy is particularly mixed. He is remembered as the architect of the Kargil war, who sent Pakistan Army-trained militants to capture Indian posts along the Line of Control (LoC) in 1998. But he is also remembered for the "Musharraf Formula" that he claimed to have proposed in talks with Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, which was taken forward during back-channel talks between 2002 and 2007. The plan involved working towards a non-territorial resolution to the dispute, which would allow greater movement across the LoC, but it was not carried forward by subsequent governments.

Complicit in terror
But Musharraf was also seen as the man in charge of Pakistan who was complicit or turned a blind eye through a series of major terror attacks in India carried out by the Jaish-e-Mohammad and the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT). They include the hijacking of IC-814 in 1999, and the Parliament attack and bombing of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislature, both in 2000. General Musharraf had resigned and left his country in August 2008, a few months before the 26/11 Mumbai attacks, but it was during his tenure that the conspiracy behind those attacks would have been made in Pakistan, where the LeT operated training camps.

After he moved to Dubai in 2016, the former leader was admitted to hospital after a collapse. In 2018, he was diagnosed with amyloidosis, a rare protein-linked disease, at the Royal Brompton Hospital in London. By June 2022, his family said in a statement that "recovery is not possible" and that his organs were malfunctioning. He passed away in Dubai on Sunday at the age of 79.

Action on child marriage leaves girls in distress

Press Trust of India
MORIGAON

Nimee's* eyes do not sparkle with the joy of new motherhood, instead, they reflect the fear, insecurity and sense of foreboding that stalks her village in Morigaon district of Assam. Rezina Khatun* stares vacuously into the distance – trying to make sense of the sudden apocalypse, which has struck her till-now happy world.

While Nimee is among the thousands of child brides whose husbands were arrested in a Statewide crackdown against child marriage by the Assam Police over the past two days, Rezina is a mother whose son's romantic escapade, which had ended with marriage, has landed him in jail now.

In the drive against child marriage in the State, the police had till Saturday arrested 2,258 people, including Hindu and Muslim priests who conducted such weddings. The police said they have identified around 8,000 accused in connection with such cases. Following the State Cabinet's decision on January 23 to arrest offenders, the police have registered 4,074 cases of child marriage in the State.

"There was a knock on the door around 2 a.m. on Thursday. We opened the door and found policemen outside. They took away my husband," Nimee said in a feeble voice, as her month-and-a-half-old son cried in her arms.

The 17-year-old had eloped and tied the knot with Gopal Biswas*, who is in his twenties, more than a year ago, and was starting off their family, with the husband providing for them by selling *pakoras*. "We barely earn enough to feed our own families. Who will look after Nimee and her son?," said Yudishter*, Gopal's elder brother, who lives in the same house along with their aged parents.

Rezina's son Rajibul* was picked up from their home around 6 p.m. on Thursday. "My daughter-in-law is not underage but there was some error in her Aadhaar card due to which my son is now behind bars," she claimed.

Wrong dates
A neighbour of the family claimed that many like Rajibul's wife were not minors at the time of the marriage but their dates of birth were wrongly entered while enrolling for Aadhaar cards.

While some are getting help from their families, many like Riya Devi* are left to the mercy of the authorities after the arrest of their husbands. "We don't have any other family as we had eloped and got married. Where am I to go with my one-year-old daughter now from here?" asked 16-year-old Riya, who is staying temporarily at a government-run shelter home. Parimita Deka, a gender specialist at the State's Social Welfare Department, said: "The drive against child marriage is very welcome. But we also have a responsibility towards these women now."

Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has said the drive against child marriage will continue till the next Assembly election in 2026. Assam has a high rate of maternal and infant mortality, with child marriage being the primary cause as an average of 31% of marriages registered in the State are in the prohibited age group, according to the National Family Health Survey.
(**names changed*)

Scholars from minority communities rue delay in disbursal of fellowship

Maulana Azad National Fellowship awardees face financial crises; they allege lack of response from the Ministry of Minority Affairs; allocation for several schemes for minorities cut in 2023-24

Ishita Mishra
NEW DELHI

The amount of ₹33,700 that 27-year-old Zeeshan Ahmad Sheikh, a Ph.D. student from the Central University of Kashmir (Ganderbal), was receiving in the form of the Maulana Azad National Fellowship (MANF) every month, was not just catering to his education but also funding the school fees of his younger sister and brother.

Since August 2022, Mr. Sheikh has been meeting all these expenses with money borrowed from relatives and friends as he awaits the disbursement of the fellowship.

Mr. Sheikh, who qualified in the University Grants Commission-National Eligibility Test (UGC-NET) in December 2021, became eligible for the MANF from February 2022. He says he received the grant only once so far, and most of that went towards repaying loans he had taken.

"It feels like begging for something that I have earned and deserve," Mr. Sheikh said, alleging that the Ministry of Minority Affairs, which was implementing the scheme before it was discontinued, never responded to his email enquiries, and that officials were impolite with him when he tried to call on the landline numbers.

Strike on: Students holding a protest against the revoking of MANF, at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi in December 2022. FILE PHOTO

Like Mr. Sheikh, hundreds of Ph.D. students from across the country are awaiting MANF funds, a five-year fellowship provided by the Union government to minority communities – Muslim, Christian, Sikh, Parsi, Buddhist and Jain.

The scheme was launched by the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) government as part of the implementation of recommendations of the Sachar Committee.

According to UGC data shared by the government in the Lok Sabha, 6,722 candidates were selected under the MANF scheme between 2014-15 and 2021-22, and fellowships to the tune of ₹738.85 crore were distributed in this period.

Kanwalpreet Kaur, 35, a MANF fellow from Mumbai, received the fellowship money in August 2022. Now a senior research fellow, Ms. Kaur faces a hard time convincing her family to let her pursue her dreams.

"Girls are married at a very early age in our community. I fought with this culture and pursued my dream with my own money. But in such a situation, where we are not getting the fellowship [funds] for six-seven months, it has become hard to survive," Ms. Kaur said.

Boon discontinued
She added that the MANF fellowship was a boon for students from minority communities and should not be discontinued.

The BJP-led Union government told the Lok Sabha in December 2022 that the MANF scheme was being discontinued. Minister for Minority Affairs Smriti Irani said the decision had been taken as the MANF scheme overlapped with various other schemes.

Besides MANF, the budget for several other schemes for minorities has been cut significantly in the financial year 2023-24. The Union Budget's estimate for the Ministry of Minority Affairs was ₹5,020.5 crore in 2022-23. This time, the Ministry has been allotted ₹3,097 crore, 38% less than last year.

The MANF scholars say that they are not allowed to work elsewhere or obtain any other stipends or honorariums during the fellowship's tenure. "If we do so, we will be charged, obligated to repay the whole amount, and our fellowships will be cancelled. Therefore, we are in a big crisis," Ajaz Ahmed, another MANF fellow who hasn't received aid from the scheme since October 2022, said.

Ministry officials did not respond to the queries sent by *The Hindu*.

Iqbal Singh Lalpura, Chairperson of the National Commission for Minorities (NCM), said the NCM had formed a committee, headed by Vice-Chairperson Kersi Kaikhushroo Deboo, to meet the beneficiaries of the Maulana Azad National Fellowship and address their concerns.

'World talks about energy transition, but nations yet to invest'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

R.K. Singh

The world has been talking about energy transition, but nations are yet to invest in it, Union Minister for Power and New and Renewable Energy R.K. Singh said on Sunday. He was delivering the keynote address at the first G-20 Energy Transition Working Group (ETWG) meeting under India's Presidency here.

The Minister said the focus of the world should also be on access to finance for moving to clean energy and low-cost financing for the energy transition.

Energy security
According to the Minister, the global energy transition discourse needs to move along with energy security as the supply chain emerges as a challenge.

"Energy transition with energy security is key," Mr. Singh said.

He said India was working to improve energy storage, although supply chain issues of lithium, required for energy storage batteries, would have to be sorted out. The key challenges around battery storage were high cost and limitation of lithium supply, he added.

The Minister said a complete transition to renewable energy from fossil fuel sources cannot happen until the cost of energy storage was reduced.

India ranks among the top five nations in the Global Climate Change Performance Index and reached the 2030 target of ensuring 40% installed capacity in non-fossil sources by 2021. The current capacity of non-fossil sources is 42%, the Minister said.

Mr. Singh said the country's per capita emission was one-third of the global average. The country has the mandate to achieve net-zero emissions by 2070, reach 500 GW of power capacity from non-fossil fuel by 2030, and get 50% of its energy requirements from renewable energy by 2030.

Over 150 delegates
Over 150 delegates from various geographies, including G-20 member countries, and special invitees from Bangladesh, Egypt, Mauritius, Nigeria, Oman, Singapore, the UAE and Spain are participating in the three-day ETWG meet that began in Bengaluru on Sunday.

The first Energy Transition Working Group meeting will focus on energy transition by addressing technology gaps, loss cost financing for energy transition, energy security and diversified supply chains, energy efficiency, fuels for the future and universal access to clean energy.

UCC against the spirit of Constitution, says AIMPLB

Ziya Us Salam
NEW DELHI

The All India Muslim Personal Law Board (AIMPLB) has opposed the proposed Uniform Civil Code, arguing that it would be "against the spirit of the Constitution". In an official statement after a meeting of its executive committee on Sunday, the AIMPLB said, "Implementing the Uniform Civil Code will deprive citizens of the privileges provided to them by personal laws."

Without directly referring to the ongoing disputes surrounding the Mathura and Kasi mosques, the Board also urged the government to ensure the implementation of the Places of Worship Act, 1991. "The Places of Worship Act is in the national interest," the Board said.

Hillary Clinton pays homage to Late Elaben Bhatt, founder of SEWA at her memorial in Ahmedabad on Sunday. VIJAY SONEJI

Hillary Clinton pays tribute to Ela Bhatt

Press Trust of India
AHMEDABAD

Former United States Secretary of State Hillary Clinton came on a two-day Gujarat visit on Sunday and participated in programmes of the Self-Empowered Women's Association (SEWA), founded by social worker and Gandhian Ela Bhatt.

Ms. Clinton paid tributes to Ela Bhatt, who died at the age of 89 in November last year, and interacted with SEWA members at its office in Ahmedabad. Ms. Clinton and Bhatt had known each other since 1995.

SEWA said Ms. Clinton has been a "great source of inspiration" to SEWA members and her visit at this time, will motivate the younger generation to take forward the movement for another 50 years.

ASI decides to form special panel to trace and certify 24 'missing' monuments

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has decided to form a special committee to trace and certify 24 protected monuments which have gone "missing".

The decision comes after repeated red flags by a parliamentary committee as well as criticism from the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister.

Citing a performance audit of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India (CAG) which had included a joint physical inspection along with the ASI of over 1,655 monuments and sites, the Rajya Sabha Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture said it was "perturbed" to find that the Barakhamba Cemetery in the very heart of the capital city was among the untraceable monuments.

Denotification process
Minister of Culture G. Kishan Reddy informed the Rajya Sabha on Thursday that the report of the CAG in 2013 stated that 92 protected monuments were missing. However, the ASI has traced 68 monuments and 24 are not yet traced.

Some of the other missing monuments are the ruins of a temple circle in Uttar Pradesh's Mirzapur dating to AD 1000, two Kos Minars (one in Faridabad's Mujesar and the other in Kurukshetra's Shahabad), a 12th century temple in Rajasthan's Baran and the Inchla Wali Gumti at Mubarakpur Kotla in the capital. The Economic Advisory Council had last month said there was an urgent need to "rationalise" the list of monuments of national importance.

There are at present 3,693 Centrally protected monuments and sites in the country. Sources in the Culture Ministry said the committee would be formed of internal experts of the ASI and would be headed in all probability by the Director-General of the ASI. It would survey the missing 24 monuments and certify them as 'found' or 'not found'. In case a monument is 'not found', then a process would be initiated to denotify them through the parliamentary procedure, sources said.

‘Tipra Motha’s ascendancy a hype... there’s a tsunami in favour of BJP’

Tripura Chief Minister downplays the perceived threat from the new local party, led by the royal scion, in the upcoming State election and dismisses the Left Front-Congress alliance as an unholy one. He says a lot has changed in the State since 2018 ... road, rail, air and Internet connectivity has improved vastly and the process of reviving inland water transport in cooperation with Bangladesh is on

INTERVIEW

Manik Saha

Rahul Karmakar
AGARTALA

The Tripura unit of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) underwent a course correction when the controversial Biplab Kumar Deb was replaced by Manik Saha, a dental surgeon, as the Chief Minister eight months before the Assembly election scheduled for February 16. The “wave” that saw the BJP end 25 years of the Left Front rule in 2018 is seemingly missing, but Mr. Saha claims there is a tsunami in favour of the party this time. Excerpts:

The BJP rode ‘*Chalo paltai*’ (let’s change) to come to power in 2018. What changed?

A lot. Road, rail, air and Internet connectivity has improved vastly and the process of reviving inland water transport in cooperation with next-door Bangladesh is on.

The salaries of all grades of employees and casual workers have been hiked by 30%-94%, jobs have been created, infrastructure and healthcare upgraded, farmers’ productivity and income increased, and there is an ease of doing business.

Most important, peace reigned in Tripura after decades of terror. This is apparent from the freedom and zeal with which all parties are campaigning in this election unlike in the past.

But your party’s campaigns focus on the Centre’s achievements. Does that indicate the State has nothing to show, as the Opposition parties say?

Absolutely not. The people know what we have done. The social pension for 2.8 lakh poor people was increased from ₹700 before 2018 to ₹2,000 each, and 30,000 were added to the list of beneficiaries.

Crimes of all hues rampant during the Left Front rule have dropped substantially.

We have seven all-woman police stations and a help desk at all police stations for women’s safety. There are many such achievements. We are highlighting the achievements of the Centre because the benefits percolate down to the State.

What about the 2018 election promise of taking back 10,323 sacked teachers?

The Left Front is shouting about the problem that was its own creation. The issue is caught in a legal complication, but we are trying to provide them relief on humanitarian grounds and have also formed an advocacy committee for them.

Is the Left Front-Congress alliance a threat to the BJP this time?

The people are sceptical about the alliance between the two parties that have had a history of violence against each other. These parties don’t trust each other. They have tied up for their existence, but in the process, they have conveyed to the people that they cannot provide stability. It is good that their secret unholy alliance five years ago is out in the open. People will reject them on the day of voting.

What about the Tipra Motha?

The Motha has approached the polls with the impractical demand of Greater Tipraland that has no geographical clarity. They started their politics by sowing the seeds of division between tribal and non-tribal people, but now claim to be inclusive.

They are riddled with problems. People can see through their agenda and that is good for us.

Will its entry, particularly in seats beyond the 20 reserved for the Scheduled Tribes, split the anti-BJP votes?

We have reports that there could a tsunami in our favour. A hype has been created about the Tipra Motha’s ascendancy in tribal areas. People forget we have 10 MLAs there and as many members of the tribal autonomous council. Thinking that we have no strength in the tribal areas will be delusional.

Tipra Motha bats for rights of LGBTQ+ community

The Hindu Bureau
AGARTALA

The Tipra Motha, Tripura’s newest local party, has vowed to ensure “equal respect and opportunities” for the LGBTQ+ community in the State.

Releasing the party’s election manifesto on Saturday, Tipra Motha chairperson and royal scion Pradyot Bikram Manikya Debbarma claimed his was the only party that had included the rights of the “most discriminated” community in a declaration. The party will contest 42 of the 60 seats.

“If we form the government, we will work towards safeguarding the rights of people from the third gender and LGBTQ+ community,” he said.

Trinamool manifesto

The Trinamool Congress, contesting 28 seats, on Sunday released its manifesto. It faces the Tipra Motha in 12 seats, six each in the tribal and non-tribal areas.

“Our manifesto has 10 pledges for a brighter future for the people of Tripura. These include job opportunities, skill development, clean governance, preservation and promotion of culture, improved basic amenities such as healthcare, electricity, education and roads,” party’s State president Pijush Kanti Biswas said.

Tribal hopes ride high on a ‘royal’ wish in Tripura

They believe Pradyot Debbarma’s idea of ‘Tipraland’ will be the solution to all their problems and help Tipra Motha wield power on its own or as the decisive constituent of a coalition government

Rahul Karmakar
KHUMULWNG (TRIPURA)

For the “owners” of about 70% of Tripura’s land, the road to more than 30 seats in the 60-member State Assembly is less than 30 km.

Khumulwng, meaning “flower garden” in the tribal Kokborok language, is a town in West Tripura district. It is also the headquarters of the Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council (TTAADC) encompassing 20 Assembly constituencies reserved for the State’s 19 Scheduled Tribes. The Kaunsil Nok, or the seat of administrative power in the TTAADC, is barely 30 km from the Assembly in Agartala, the capital of an erstwhile tribal kingdom.

The kingdom is represented by Pradyot Bikram Manikya Debbarma, the royal scion whose party, the Tipra Motha, could be the kingmaker after the results are declared on March 2. His followers refer to him as *Bubagra*, meaning king. They believe his idea of Greater Tipraland, a self-rule zone comprising the TTAADC and beyond, will be the solution to all their problems and will help Tipra Motha wield power on its own or as the decisive constituent of a coalition government.

Mahendra Debbarma, Tipra Motha’s candidate for the Krishnapur Assembly seat, campaigning ahead of the election. RAHUL KARMAKAR

“Tripura belongs to *Bubagra*, which makes us, the *Tiprasa* (tribal) people, the owners of this land too. But he has insisted Tipraland will have space for the *Onesa* (non-tribal) people,” Bikash Debbarma, a trader in Mandwi, said.

He said this with reference to the guilt the local people carry for the massacre of 255 people, mostly Bengalis who dominate the 40 non-tribal constituencies beyond the TTAADC, by extremists at Mandwi in June 1980. Mandwi, in West Tripura district, is about 25 km from Agartala.

“That was an aberration in the cordial relationship between the tribal and non-tribal people throughout the reign of 184 kings in Tripura. We live in peaceful co-existence and *Bubagra* has said we must ensure no forces can drive the divisive wedge in again,” Mahendra Debbarma, the Tipra Motha’s candidate for the Krishnapur constituency in Khowai district, said while campaigning at 43 Mile.

He asked his non-tribal supporters to dispel “conspiracy theories” that Tipra would make life difficult for Bengalis, specifically in the TTAADC because defunct tribe-based parties had threatened to eject all “outsiders” who came from Bangladesh.

At Dumboor in Gomati district, about 135 km from Agartala, Banglajoy Tripura said the tribal people have come from Bangladesh too. “My name is a celebration of the 1971 War of Liberation of Bangladesh, from where I came,” said the 52-year-old of the Jamatia tribe.

“Painting us as a party of the tribal people only is mischievous although we have a high chance of sweeping the TTAADC seats. In the non-ST seats where our support base is 25-30%, we can get a swing of at least 10% votes and in a triangular contest, 35-36% votes can make you a winner in Tripura,” Animesh Debbarma, a senior party leader and the deputy chief of the TTAADC, told *The Hindu*.

One of the factors why people trust the Tipra Motha is the “unprecedented” clean governance “with very few resources” it has provided in the TTAADC after winning the council elections in 2021, he said. “The tribal people, who constitute 31.8% of the State’s 36.74 lakh people (2011 census) and 85% of the population in the TTAADC that covers almost 70% of the State’s geographical area, are emotionally attached to Khumulwng,” he said.

But Agartala is closer to the hearts of the people who swear by *Bubagra*. They hope March 2 would see their titular king become the political Maharaj.

Somanathan must revisit his theory on housing loan: Chidambaram

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Senior Congress leader and former Union Finance Minister P. Chidambaram on Sunday urged Union Finance Secretary T.V. Somanathan to “re-examine his theory” that a housing loan is not a saving.

Mr. Somanathan, in an interview to *The Hindu* while talking about the old tax regime, said that if one looks at the structure of the tax deductions, half of them are for savings and half of them are for dis-savings such as housing loan or interest on it.

“The Finance Secretary asks, ‘Is the housing loan a saving?’ His answer is ‘No’. I wonder how many people will agree with the Finance Secretary,” Mr. Chidambaram said on Twitter.

The payment of interest and the instalments of the loan is indeed an expenditure, but it is expenditure which is converted into an asset, which is a saving, the former Finance Minister argued.

“Suppose you spend the same money on a holiday or at a race course: there will be no asset at the end. The Finance Secretary should re-examine his theory that a Housing Loan is not a saving,” Mr. Chidambaram said.

Mr. Somanathan had said, “I don’t agree with the perception that the old regime encourages saving. For the simple reason, if you look at the structure of the tax deductions, half of them are for savings and half of them are for dis-savings like housing loan or interest on housing loan. Is the housing loan a saving?” “Government wants you to do housing, insurance or pension. But it’s not necessarily a savings push or influence the savings rate.”

Congress makes a jibe at PM’s silence over Adani saga

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Jairam Ramesh

The Congress, questioning the silence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi over the alleged Adani Group “stock scam”, has decided to pose three questions every day to Mr. Modi on the issue. Opposition parties, meanwhile, will sit together in Parliament on Monday to chart the next course of the protests.

The Budget Session witnessed disruptions last week as the Opposition demanded an inquiry by a Joint Parliamentary Committee or one monitored by the Supreme Court into the issue. Opposition MPs will also hold protests on Monday in front of the Mahatma Gandhi statue in Parliament against the Centre’s silence.

Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said here on Sunday that the Centre had maintained “loud silence” which smacked of collusion. He said Mr. Modi’s silence on the scam had forced the party to start a series of campaigns named HAHK – *Hum* Adani *ke hain kaun* (Who are we to Adani).

Mr. Ramesh said Vinod Adani, the brother of Gautam Adani, was named in the Panama Papers and the Pandora Papers as someone who operates offshore entities in the Bahamas and the British Virgin Islands. “What does the fact that a business entity you are well acquainted with faces serious allegations tell us about the quality and sincerity of your investigations,” he asked as the first question.

The Congress leader said the Centre used federal agencies to intimidate political opponents and to punish business houses that did not fall in line. “What action has been taken, if ever, to investigate the serious allegations made over the years against the Adani Group? Is there any hope of a fair and impartial investigation under you?” he asked.

As the third question, he asked how it was possible that one of India’s largest business groups could have escaped serious scrutiny for so long despite persistent allegations. “Other business groups have been harassed and raided for much less. Was the Adani Group essential to a dispensation that has profited from ‘anti-corruption’ rhetoric all of these years?” Mr. Ramesh asked.

Five new appointments in SC signal that collegium has prevailed over Union govt.

NEWS ANALYSIS

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

Chief Justice of India (CJI) D.Y. Chandrachud is scheduled to read out the oath of allegiance to the Constitution to five new judges of the Supreme Court (SC) on Monday. The occasion will see the largest number of top court judges taking oath simultaneously in nearly two years.

Monday’s swearing-in is also a sign that the court has prevailed over the government’s continuous attacks on the collegium system. The court has refused to let the disparaging public comments made by government functionaries about the collegium affect it. Instead, the court had used the opportunity to put pressure on the government through judicial orders and collegium resolutions to clear pending appointments. The court has also used the acrimony initiated by the Centre to set down some ground rules for the government while making judicial appointments.

For one, the collegium has given a clear direction that seniority of the names recommended should be kept intact by the government. The Centre should not pick one or two of the names recommended in a batch and appoint them as judges while keeping the rest pending. The government has complied with the collegium’s wishes in the case of the five names.

A collegium resolution of January 31 had specified that the new names should only be appointed after Justices Pankaj Mithal, Sanjay Karol, P.V. Sanjay Kumar, Ahsanuddin Amanullah and Manoj Misra, who were recommended on December 13 last year. “The

CJI D.Y. Chandrachud

names recommended by the Collegium by its resolution on December 13, 2022, shall have precedence over the two names recommended presently for appointment to the Supreme Court. The appointments of five judges recommended on December 13 should be notified separately and earlier in point of time before the two judges recommended by this resolution,” the resolution said.

Second, the court has made subtle but effective changes in the collegium’s functioning while making it clear that the collegium system is law as of now, and the government is welcome to bring a better one.

Detailed resolutions

Resolutions are no longer a short list of names recommended for judgeships. They have once again become detailed, publishing reasons and discussions undertaken about the candidates. In fact, the extent of the collegium’s transparency has even made Law Minister Kiren Rijiju, an advocate of transparency within the collegium, react that some things should remain secret.

On January 18, the collegium let the public know about the government’s objections concerning the sexuality of Saurabh Kirpal, an openly gay lawyer recommended for the Delhi High Court. “Every individual is entitled to maintain their own dignity and individuality, based on sexual orientation,” the collegium had replied.

Bengal BJP MLA defects to Trinamool Congress

The Hindu Bureau
KOLKATA

In yet another setback to the BJP in West Bengal, a party MLA on Sunday joined the Trinamool Congress. Suman Kanjilal, who represents the Alipurduar seat in north Bengal, joined the Trinamool in the presence of party general secretary Abhishek Banerjee in Kolkata.

Mr. Kanjilal was elected on BJP ticket in the 2021 Assembly polls. The MLA had differences with a section of BJP leaders, including Alipurduar MP John Barla. Mr. Kanjilal said that he was unable to work for the people as a BJP MLA.

Since the 2021 Assembly polls, over half a dozen BJP MLAs have defected to the Trinamool. With the defection of the MLA, three MLAs from north Bengal have joined the Trinamool.

ANDHRA PRADESH FOREST DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED
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RED SANDERS WOOD SALE (PHASE - XV) 2023- NOTICE

Andhra Pradesh Forest Development Corporation Limited hereby notifies the sale of **417.650 Metric Tonnes** of Red Sanders Wood (RSW) through international competitive bidding by way of e-tender-cum-e-auction on **23rd February 2023** in the First cycle. The unsold RSW lots, if any, would be put for sale on **2nd March 2023** in the Second cycle. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has all the necessary statutory approvals for the sale and export of RSW. The details of the sale conditions and related information are available in the following: http://www.apfdcl.com; http://www.forests.ap.gov.in; https://www.mstcindia.co.in; https://www.mstcecommerce.com

Sd/
(M. REVATHI, IFS.,)
Date: 3.2.2023 VICE CHAIRMAN AND MANAGING DIRECTOR (FAC)

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Position	No. of Posts	Reservation	Remuneration	Minimum Qualification	Nature of Appointment
Project Manager	01	UR	Rs.52,000/-	Post graduate in Public Health / Social Work / Law	Contractual - Two Years
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The intending candidates are requested to apply by filling the online application form and sending their CV to the **recruitment_tobaccocontrol@nluo.ac.in** latest by **16.02.2023** by **5.00 P.M.** Details about the project and other desirable skills are available at **www.nluo.ac.in**.

Note:-
1. Other details of the posts and relevant information can be accessed from the Career section of the University website **www.nluo.ac.in**.
2. Only short-listed candidates will be called for Interview.
3. No TA/DA will be given for attending the Interview.
4. For any updates, please visit University website regularly, no separate communication will be made to the candidates. Candidates who had applied previously need not send their application again.

Sd/- Registrar

‘Capital flows and commodity prices could still pose concerns’

Slowdown in global economy will pose downside for India’s growth, says the Economic Affairs Secretary; government has been conservative in estimating revenues, realistic on expenditure with a prudent fiscal consolidation; private investments picking up, but not large enough to be primary driver of growth; regulators were told to review norms in the larger context of ease of doing business

INTERVIEW

Ajay Seth

Vikas Dhoot

Amid global rate hikes, foreign fund flows are seeing an ‘uneasy equilibrium’ in recent months, Economic Affairs Secretary Ajay Seth said in an interview. Excerpts:

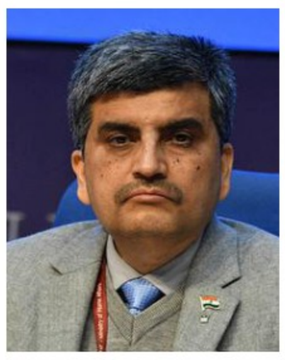
How do you place the Budget in the context of global headwinds and insulating India from their worst effects?

Three global factors are important for our economy. One, a significant slowdown in the global economy is the general consensus, even if there are different opinions whether a particular economy or set of economies will go into recession. The massive slowdown will have an impact on our exports and pose a downside for our growth, because a significant part of our economy is dependent on exports.

Second, we are seeing inflation somewhat moderating in major economies, and as a result, those central banks are no longer very aggressive in increasing their policy rates, like the U.S. Federal Reserve just did. We don’t know how that will play out and that has implications even for foreign [capital] flows. The last two-three months are showing that things are falling into an uneasy equilibrium. So capital flows can still be a cause for concern.

The third element is which way global prices of major commodities, oil, gas, or even major metals, will move. If the global economy were to slow down significantly, then perhaps, the prices should cool down. At the same time, which direction the Russia and Ukraine conflict goes, can put the oil and gas prices into a spin either way.

When we know these factors are uncertain, and uncertainty can lead to an accident as well – an economic accident that will not be confined to a particular economy – the first concern of our response is ‘Be prudent in managing our economy and don’t



take an over-optimistic view’. We have been conservative in estimating revenues and realistic on our expenditure with a prudent fiscal consolidation.

How do we get the domestic growth drivers like consumption moving? Will next year’s higher public capex tip the scales and revive the private investment cycle?

It is not a scale, as such, that will tip over and the private sector will start coming in. For the past three quarters, there are signs of private investments picking up, but they are still not large enough to be the primary driver of growth. So we felt that at least another year of public investment should contribute very prominently.

What is the trigger for requesting regulators to review their norms in the Budget speech?

This has to be seen in the larger context of ease of doing business. Departments are taking continuous efforts to assess where compliances can be more optimal and where they can be totally dispensed with. All regulators have also taken similar steps. Each regulator taking upon itself to look at its entire set of regulations and decide which are the ones that need tweaks [is what is being mooted]. It doesn’t have to be a tight regulation but smart regulation and they have been working on that.

Mentioning in the Budget speech has two aspects as communications with regulators can happen in any meeting. This is a larger message for economic stakeholders, when government hears from them it is difficult to do business and regulations need to be relooked, that it is a continuous effort. But obviously, this is regulators’ domain. The Reserve Bank of India has already taken up a very massive exercise on this after almost two decades. Other regulators will also do it.

Jobs and skills found greater mention in this Budget...

I look at this in a more nuanced way... and we don’t count how many times a particular aspect has been mentioned. Those references have come in a few things as if it is understood. But when the commentary goes as if that [issue] is not getting attention, it is better to make that very explicit. When we talk about a ₹10 lakh crore investment, it will improve the economy’s productive capacity, take care of infrastructure constraints and lead to huge job creation. It is not just in construction, but in steel and other industries too.

Similarly, when we say private investment should come in, it doesn’t come in merely into infrastructure, it also comes into plant and machinery and so on. Those require skilled people. Are we investing as a nation in skilling, not just for agriculture or farm labour moving to construction? Job creation is not only about manufacturing, but equally prominent areas like tourism, which also suffers from a lack of trained manpower and entrepreneurs. So that can be an important driver of growth.

INBRIEF

Windfall tax on crude oil and diesel, ATF exports hiked

The government has hiked the windfall profit tax levied on domestically produced crude oil and exports of diesel and aviation turbine fuel (ATF), in line with firming international oil prices, an official order has said. The levy on crude oil produced by companies such as the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation has been increased to ₹5,050 a tonne from ₹1,900 a tonne, the order said. The government has also raised the tax on export of diesel to ₹7.5 a litre from ₹5, and the same on overseas shipments of ATF to ₹6 a litre from ₹3.5 a litre. The new tax rates came into effect from February 4. The levy on both domestic crude oil and fuel exports is now off the lows it had hit last month. PTI

Chargesheet against former Chief Secretary in rape case

A chargesheet was filed against former Andaman and Nicobar Chief Secretary Jitendra Narain and two others in the gang-rape case of a 21-year-old woman, the police said on Sunday. The chargesheet against Mr. Narain, businessman Sandeep Singh and suspended Labour Commissioner Rishishwarlal Rishi was based on the statements of nearly 90 witnesses, forensic reports and electronic evidence, they said. The accused have been charged under various Sections of the IPC, including 376 (punishment for rape), 376C (sexual intercourse by superintendent of jail, remand home), 376D (intercourse by any member of the management or staff of a hospital), and 354 (assault or force on woman with intent to outrage her modesty). PTI

Railways set to fill 1.35 lakh vacancies this year: Vaishnaw

Nearly 3.65 crore aspirants had applied for various posts between 2020 and 2022; more than one lakh vacancies are in the Level 1 category

Maitri Porecha
NEW DELHI

> The posts are being filled from among crores of applicants who sat for recruitment exams... of the 14.93 lakh sanctioned posts in Railways, over 3.14 lakh are vacant

After a delay of two years owing to COVID-19, the Indian Railways is back on track to fill nearly 1.35 lakh vacancies. Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw told *The Hindu* on Sunday the new recruits would be selected from crores of applicants who had sat for recruitment exams.

Of the 14.93 lakh sanctioned posts in the Railways, over 3.14 lakh are vacant, Mr. Vaishnaw said. The national transporter is hoping to plug up to 43% of this gap by April. Nearly 3.65 crore aspirants had applied between 2020 and 2022, official sources said.

Up to 1,03,769 of the vacancies are in the Level 1 category, which includes trackspersons, pointsmen, electrical workers, signal and telecom assistants, who are crucial for the smooth running of the Railways. Nearly 1.1 crore persons had applied for Level 1 posts, official sources said.

The recruitment exams were conducted from August 17 to October 11 last year, and results were declared on December 23. The transporter spends around ₹300 to ₹400 per candidate at every stage of the exam. “The massive exercise of conducting the exams has cost Railways anywhere above ₹1,200 crore,” a source said.

‘Recruitment by April’

The next stage involves physical efficiency tests for posts such as tracksperson which require staff to patrol, run or walk within 8 km of their designated area on rail tracks and to lift heavy weights.

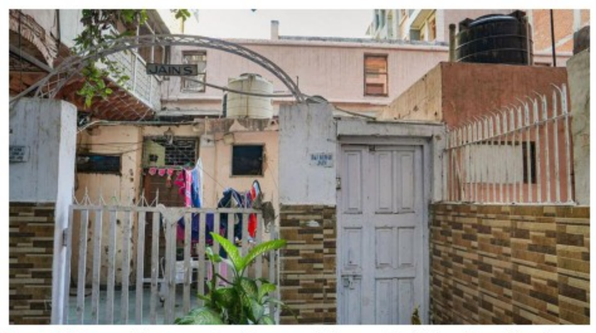
“While men need to run 1,500 m in 4.15 minutes, women need to cover 1,000 m in 5.4 minutes. These physical tests are expected to be completed in February. We are hoping to recruit by April this year,” the source said.

Another 1.25 crore persons have applied for non-technical popular categories (NTPC) exams, which were held between December 2020 and July 2021. An additional 1.3 crore applied for exams held from May 9 to October 11 in 2022. “There are 35,281 vacancies in these categories, which include stationmasters, goods guards, clerks, traffic assistants and so on that we expect to fill,” the source said.

The Railways had released the notification for filling the NTPC posts in 2019, and the process involves written exam, medical evaluation and document verification. The process had been delayed because of protests by a section of applicants seeking “fair assessment”. “We are addressing these grievances,” the source added.

Before Partition, young Musharraf lived in a haveli at Daryaganj in Delhi

Ziya Us Salam
NEW DELHI



Long history: The ancestral house of former Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf at Daryaganj in Delhi. PTI

As Pakistan’s former President Pervez Musharraf battled for life in the UAE, one of his most vocal critics, the current Pakistani Defence Minister Khawaja Asif, offered him a safe passage home, even promising an air ambulance to bring the General back.

It was a healing touch too late in the day as the former President passed away in exile in Dubai on Sunday. Across the border in India, the news sent many in Old Delhi down memory lane, with old-timers recalling the early tales they had heard of his childhood spent on the cusp of Old and New Delhi.

Musharraf had been living in the UAE since 2016, when he was allowed to travel abroad on bail by a Pakistan court for medical treatment.

It was shortly after his 1999 coup that the General came to Delhi, the city where he had spent his early childhood. As his wet nurse recalled at that time, Musharraf spent almost half a decade in the Neharwali Haveli in Daryaganj. The haveli was built in the Mughal fashion with arches, niches, lattice screens and a big courtyard. Located in Faiz Bazaar, it was quite an imposing structure with a separate section for women.

Among those who had lived in the vicinity at various times were the popular Urdu poet Momin and the founder of Aligarh Muslim University, Syed Ahmed Khan. While there is a road named after Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, there is not a trace of remembrance of Musharraf.

Down the memory lane

There is an anecdote though about how little Pervez had made friends with a blue-collar worker and would often chit chat with her, picking her brains on how the Jama Masjid looked like, how big the Red Fort was and how delicious were the jalebis sold at Dariba Kalan. His wet nurse survived for almost 50 years after Musharraf’s family left for Pakistan. She would recount little Pervez’s constant demands to be taken to the local market; how her promises to take him to the market convinced him to finish his food. Her stories were much sought after when the General visited India for the Agra talks.

The haveli itself has changed hands over the years. It was bought by a man named Prem Chand Gola, whose three sons lived there after Partition. Today, his grandchildren own the place, which now has houses, shops, restaurants and the Golcha cinema.

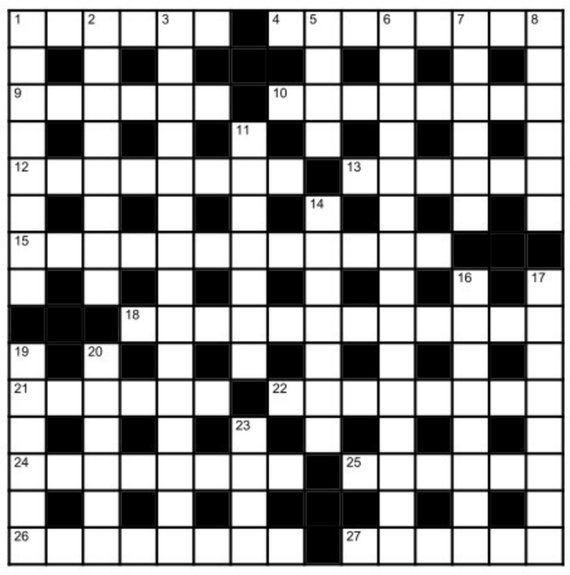
Today, the haveli, the cinema and the General have all been reduced to footnotes of time. But the old residents of the area don’t fail to remind everybody that Musharraf took his first steps in life in our own Daryaganj.

TH CROSSWORD + 13781

(set by Arden)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Fish nets regularly mopped, it's slow (6)
4 Starts with blue and red - on time for a title (8)
9 Small place, they say it spreads (6)
10 Old King's edict to make a salad (8)
12 The sea grass covering was still there (8)
13 Bordering Columbia, nothing in Spanish land (6)
15 A British duty, could be very revealing (8,4)
18 Bandaged in parts, get a severe reprimand (8,4)
21 Hard to fit into a small place if fat (6)
22 Quorum required for a religious service, may be I'm in many (8)
24 Probably around ten - English collection of French poems (8)
25 Make every effort to get a second coach (6)
26 Threaten with delivery as Sobers returns (8)
27 Quote the setter over purge (6)

Down

1 Mark cooked nice ribs (8)
2 Supply more variety, throwing up chemicals (8)
3 Repair rear light and body, by paying such a high price (8,7)
5 No copy right on law just now (4)
6 Work time, set my things in order - no high Windows, perhaps (9,6)
7 I am agile, flexible - reportedly eyes go all shiny (6)
8 Last of the prawn cooked up, cover it (6)
11 Gas used to destroy data stored on a hard drive (7)
14 Keen to 11 a drug (7)
16 Blue feathers for the troupe (8)
17 First of March to third of June income varies - it will help you remember (8)
19 Mark on a black seal (6)
20 Link between UK and France - came up fast including the French one (6)
23 Four hogsheads and a fish (4)

SUDOKU

		1	5	8		7		
5							6	
3	4			6	7			9
	3			9	1			
8								3
			4	2			8	
6			7	1			5	4
	1							6
		3		5	6	8		

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

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Solution to previous puzzle

■	A	S	T	H	E	C	R	O	W	F	L	I	E	S
B	■	A	■	E	■	A	■	L	■	I	■	N	■	U
R	I	L	E	D	■	L	E	I	C	E	S	T	E	R
O	■	A	■	G	■	E	■	V	■	L	■	E	■	G
W	I	D	G	E	O	N	■	E	N	D	O	R	S	E
S	■	D	■	■	■	D	■	■	■	T	■	■	■	O
E	L	A	N	D	■	U	N	C	E	R	T	A	I	N
■	■	Y	■	R	■	L	■	R	■	I	■	D	■	■
C	A	S	S	O	W	A	R	Y	■	P	U	R	G	E
A	■	■	■	P	■	■	■	O	■	■	■	E	■	N
M	I	T	O	S	I	S	■	G	R	A	N	N	I	E
B	■	H	■	C	■	I	■	E	■	G	■	A	■	R
R	E	E	D	O	R	G	A	N	■	G	U	L	A	G
I	■	I	■	N	■	H	■	I	■	R	■	I	■	Y
C	U	R	R	E	N	T	A	C	C	O	U	N	T	■

Solution to yesterday’s Sudoku

7	8	2	6	5	3	9	4	1
3	4	5	1	7	9	2	6	8
1	6	9	4	2	8	7	3	5
6	5	7	9	8	4	1	2	3
9	2	1	5	3	6	8	7	4
8	3	4	2	1	7	5	9	6
2	9	6	8	4	1	3	5	7
4	1	3	7	9	5	6	8	2
5	7	8	3	6	2	4	1	9

FAITH

Ravidas opposed dogma

In the Tamil month of Thai when many devotees pay homage to gurus, it is significant that Sikh saint Ravidas’s birth jayanthi falls on Thai Poosam day this year. The balance needed to traverse the twinning bridge of walking in the path of godliness and yet leading a material life are often shown by such gurus, said Professor Kumool Abbi in a lecture. Inner strife and outer conflicts often make it difficult for people to walk on the path of dharma, and while our scriptures show the way, saints have deconstructed various high philosophy in simple format, in order for ordinary people to embrace a life of goodliness and godliness in their daily lives.

Ravidas sang, ‘*Meri Preet Gobind sio, jin ghatey.* (My love for the lord of the universe does not decrease, I paid for it dearly in exchange for my soul.) The 15-16th Century Bhakti poet firmly stood up for those on the margins in society and fought against dogma, oppression, superstition and ritualism. Ravidas was a contemporary of Kabir and is believed to have met Guru Nanak, the founder of Sikh religion. Born in the village of Seer Govardhanpur to a family of leather tanners, a profession he considered his *keerat* (vocation) and continued all his life. Forty-one shabads of Ravidass bani have been included in the Shri Guru Granth Sahib in the form of different ragas. Similarly the Panchvani text of the Dadupanthi tradition have incorporated some of his works. His works contain the common thread of an unflinching devotion to God who is projected in an abstract form as Nirguna (without attributes). His vision encompassed an ideal society of Begumpura where no sorrow, discrimination and differences existed.

JUBA

Pope seeks an end to ethnic hatred at open-air mass in South Sudan

REUTERS

Pope Francis appealed on Sunday to the people of South Sudan to lay down their "weapons of hatred" at an open-air mass on the final day of his pilgrimage to a country blighted by violence and poverty. The 86-year-old pontiff had made peace and reconciliation the theme of his three-day trip to the world's newest nation. AFP

SEOUL

Nine persons missing after fishing boat capsizes in South Korea

AP

South Korean Coast Guard vessels and aircraft on Sunday were searching for nine fishermen who disappeared after their boat capsized off the country's southwestern coast. Thge Coast Guard said three crew members were rescued by a commercial vessel following the accident on late Saturday near Daebichi Island. AFP

PARIS

Macron gives ground to allies in unpopular pension reform bid

AFP

President Emmanuel Macron's government offered a concession on contested French pension reforms, seeking to shore up support from prospective right-wing allies. People who began work between the ages of 20 and 21 will be able to retire at 63 rather than the headline age of 64, Prime Minister Elisabeth Borne said. AFP

BAGHDAD

Iraqi activists protest after man strangles YouTuber daughter

AP

Iraqi activists protested on Sunday to demand a law against domestic violence, days after a YouTuber was strangled by her father in a killing that has outraged the conservative country. Tiba al-Ali, 22, was killed by her father on January 31 in the southern province of Diwaniyah, officials said. AFP

Truss terms her tenure 'bruising experience'

The former British PM defends her policies, while admitting that she could have done some things differently. She says officials had misled her with incomplete information and that there were "concerted" efforts in Washington, such as from the IMF and the U.S. President, to challenge her plans

Sriram Lakshman
LONDON

Short stint: Liz Truss resigned shortly after her September 23 'mini Budget' which included tax cuts and rattled the markets. REUTERS

Former U.K. Prime Minister Liz Truss, on Sunday, launched a broadside against the economic orthodoxy of British and international institutions, mostly blaming "a very powerful economic establishment" and a lack of political support for the collapse of her administration and her resignation from office in under 50 days.

In a 4,000-word essay in the *Sunday Telegraph* newspaper about her "bruising" experience, Ms. Truss suggested that U.K. Treasury officials had misled her with incomplete information, that the media made her government a scapegoat, and that there were "concerted" efforts, such as from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and U.S. President Joe Biden, to challenge her plans.

Ms. Truss's government fell shortly after her September 23 'mini Budget', which included tax cuts and unfunded expenditures, and rattled the markets, resulting in her resignation in October. On Sunday, she defended her policies, while admitting that she could have done some things differently.

On the reversal of the corporate tax hike, she said she strongly believed and still believes that raising the rate is "counterproductive", and called the abolition of the 45% top rate of personal income tax a "small measure".

Ms. Truss discussed her lack of knowledge of liability-driven investments (LDIs), an investment policy linked to pension plans, which, she said, were "a problem that would ultimately bring my premiership to an abrupt and premature end". U.K. Treasury officials did not brief her, or the (then) Chancellor, Kwasi Kwarteng, about the risks LDIs posed to bond markets, Ms. Truss argued. "Only now can I appreciate what a delicate tinderbox we were dealing with," she said. Ms. Truss sacked Mr. Kwarteng on the morning of October 14, a move she felt "deeply disturbed" by.

Large sections of the public and the media had become unfamiliar with tax and economic policy arguments, and the sentiment had "shifted Left-wards" over time, the former Prime Minister wrote, as she called out the economic modelling practices of the U.K.'s fiscal watchdog, which undervalued supply-side reforms and lower taxes according to her.

On the IMF's reaction to her Budget, Ms. Truss said it "commented on distributional aspects rather than market stability which it is hard to conclude was anything but politically motivated". She referred to Mr. Biden's remarks as an example of interventions from outside "in tune with growing efforts on the world stage to limit competition between G7 economies, as evidenced by the proposed global minimum tax". The U.S. President had called the Budget a "mistake" and singled out the tax cuts.

Ms. Truss wrote that she should not have flown to New York (to address the UN) after Queen Elizabeth's funeral, and stayed back in London to supervise the Budget announcement more closely. "I fully admit our communication could have been better."

In the hours after the piece was published, British media reported the reaction of MPs, many of whom remained unnamed. Speaking to the BBC, Business Secretary Grant Shapps, who was part of the Truss Cabinet agreed with the general idea of cutting taxes, but after reducing inflation and getting debt "under control".

New long-range weapons will not target Moscow: Kyiv

Agence France-Presse
KYIV

Ukrainian Defence Minister Oleksiy Reznikov said on Sunday that Kyiv would not use new long-range weapons from the West to strike targets in Russia.

"On Friday, our partners decided to provide us with weapons capable of firing at a distance of 150 kilometres," Mr. Reznikov told a news conference.

"We tell our partners that we take an obligation not to use the weapons of foreign partners against the territory of Russia, only against their units in the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine for the purpose of de-occupying our land," he said.

The U.S. on Friday announced a new $2.2 billion package of arms and munitions for Ukraine, which the Pentagon said included a new rocket-propelled precision bomb that could nearly double Kyiv's strike range against Russian forces.

They potentially give Kyiv's forces the ability to strike anywhere in the Russian-occupied Donbas, Zaporizhzhia and Kherson regions, as well as the northern part of occupied Crimea.

France and Italy for their part are expected to deliver mobile surface-to-air missile systems.

German Chancellor Olaf Scholz said Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky agreed that weapons supplied by the West would not be used to attack Russian territory.

Iran pardons 'tens of thousands' of prisoners

Reuters
DUBAI

Iran's supreme leader has pardoned "tens of thousands" of prisoners including some arrested in recent anti-government protests, the state news agency IRNA reported on Sunday.

However, the pardon approved by Ayatollah Ali Khamenei came with conditions, which said the measure would not apply to any of the numerous dual nationals held in Iran.

The news agency said those accused of "corruption on earth" – a capital charge brought against some protesters, four of whom have been executed – would also not be pardoned. Neither would it apply to those charged with "spying for foreign agencies" or those "affiliated with groups hostile to the Islamic Republic".

Putin promised not to kill Zelensky, says former Israeli PM

Associated Press
TEL AVIV

A former Israeli Prime Minister who served briefly as a mediator at the start of Russia's war with Ukraine says he drew a promise from the Russian President not to kill his Ukrainian counterpart.

Former Prime Minister Naftali Bennett emerged as an unlikely intermediary in the war's first weeks, becoming one of the few Western leaders to meet President Vladimir Putin during the war in a snap trip to Moscow last March.

In the five-hour interview posted online late on Saturday, Mr. Bennett says he asked Mr. Putin about whether he intended to kill Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy.

"I asked 'what's with this? Are you planning to kill Zelensky?' He said 'I won't kill Zelensky.' I then said to him 'I have to understand that you're giving me your word.' He said 'I'm not going to kill Zelensky.'" Mr. Bennett said he then called Mr. Zelensky to inform him of Mr. Putin's pledge.

Naftali Bennett

Mr. Bennett said that during his mediation, Mr. Putin dropped his vow to seek Ukraine's disarmament and Mr. Zelensky promised not to join NATO.

Five injured in blast planned by TTP in Pakistan

Press Trust of India
KARACHI

At least five persons, mostly policemen, were injured in an explosion in Quetta on Sunday in Pakistan's restive Balochistan province, in yet another instance of systematic attacks targeting security officials in the country orchestrated by the outlawed Pakistani Taliban.

The explosion took place at Quetta Police Lines Area, and the injured are mostly policemen.

The outlawed Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) has claimed responsibility for the attack.

Meanwhile, a Pakistan Super League exhibition match featuring players such as Babar Azam and Shahid Afridi, being played at the Nawab Akbar Bugti stadium had to be halted briefly due to the blast.

RSP recalls its Ministers, but continues support for Prachanda govt. in Nepal

Press Trust of India
KATHMANDU

The Rastriya Swatantra Party (RSP) on Sunday decided to withdraw from Nepal's ruling coalition after Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal "Prachanda" refused to reinstate the party's flamboyant chairman Rabi Lamichhane as Home Minister after he recently re-acquired his citizenship.

The decision was taken after a joint meeting of the RSP's central members and lawmakers.

Mr. Lamichhane lost the status of a lawmaker following a verdict by Nepal's Supreme Court on January 27, which stated that the citizenship certificate he produced to contest the parliamentary election was invalid, according to the *Kathmandu Post* newspaper.

Losing grip on power

Subsequently, he also lost his ministerial portfolio and the presidency of the party because one needs to be a Nepali citizen to hold those positions.

On January 29, he re-acquired his citizenship, following which he met Prachanda and demanded that he be restored to his former Cabinet position, the report said.

But the Nepal Prime Minister was in no mood to relent, it added.

Mr. Lamichhane was appointed Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister on December 26 last year.

The RSP, floated by Lamichhane, won 20 seats in the federal polls, making its fourth largest force in parliament.

The RSP's decision to withdraw from the coalition government does not alter Prime Minister Prachanda's political fortunes.

That's because even though the RSP has decided to recall their Ministers, it will continue to support this government, the *Post* report added.

Last month, 'Prachanda' received the support of 268 of the 270 lawmakers who were present in parliament – the highest number of votes a Prime Minister has ever received in a vote of confidence in parliament.

THE HINDU GROUP

FRONTLINE
LEADING THE DEBATE SINCE 1984

Himalaya
on shaky ground

Mega dams and unplanned cities in a paraglacial zone are the perfect recipe for disaster. As the fragile Himalaya faces a development onslaught, Frontline does a reality check.

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PRECIOUSMETALS

Gold bright, silver dull

B.Krishnakumar

The new calendar year has started off on a mixed note for precious metals. While Comex gold closed near its nine-month highs at the end of January, Comex silver price did not share a similar enthusiasm and remained largely range-bound.

The subdued trend in the U.S. Dollar played a key role in helping gold price consolidate the gains posted in the recent months.

Comex gold gained 6.5% in January to end the month at $1,945.3 per ounce. Comex silver posted a marginal fall of 0.85% to close at $23.83 at the end of January. The divergent trend between gold and silver was apparent in the domestic markets, too.

MCX gold gained 3.2% to settle at ₹57,190 per 10 gram. On the other hand, MCX silver remained subdued and posted a marginal loss of 0.8% to end January at ₹68,829 per kilogram.

Due to the subdued performance of silver, the white metal has underperformed gold in January. It remains to be seen if this marks the end of the relative outperformance of silver witnessed until the end of December. Let us wait for further price action to unfold before deciding the relative strength of silver versus gold. The recent rise in Comex gold pushed the price past the target zone of $1,870-$1,880 mentioned in January.

Overbought zone

But the recent uptrend has also resulted in the price reaching the overbought zone and a mean-reversion move is likely.

Comex gold is likely to remain subdued in the short-term and could drop to the immediate support at $1,830-$1,840 zone. Only a move past $1,950 would invalidate the short-term subdued outlook for Comex gold.

Unlike gold, the price action in Comex silver was confined to a range in the past few weeks.

This range-bound price action between the $22-24.5 band is likely to persist in the short-term. A breakout from this range would set the tone for the direction of the next big move in Comex silver. Until then, the recent range-bound price action is likely to continue. In the domestic market, the precious metals ruled firm and MCX gold reached the target of ₹56,700-57,500 mentioned in January.

In the short-term, the price is overbought and a fall to the immediate target of ₹55,000-55,500 is likely. The short-term subdued outlook would be invalidated if the price moves above ₹58,000.

Mirrors global trend

Mirroring the global trend, MCX silver, too, remained subdued in January.

But the price managed to reach the target zone of ₹71,750-72,500 mentioned last month. In the short-term, MCX silver is likely to drop to the immediate support zone at ₹65,600-67,000. This view would be negated if the price moves above ₹71,500.

Conclusion

To summarise, the precious metal prices are likely to remain subdued in the short-term. The answer to the question whether the uptrend in the precious metals is over or not, will depend on how the price action unfolds in the next few months.

(The author is a Chennai based analyst/trader. This is not meant to be a trading or investment advice)

Send queries on personal finance and investing to the moneywise@thehindu.co.in ID. Our experts in personal finance will respond to select queries, but will not give specific recommendations for investment in a particular mutual fund, share or fixed deposit.

Of inflation, interest rates and real returns

Rising interest rates and easing inflation have made things better than earlier; irrespective of the variables like returns on investments, the basics of your investment portfolio remain the same

INVESTMENT STRATEGY

Joydeep Sen

In the Moneywise article dated July 25, 2021, 'Inflation isn't in your control, so worry not', we had mentioned that your returns on investments should ideally be higher than inflation so that it preserves the value.

However, if it is not so, you cannot do much, because inflation is not in your control. What is in your control is your investments, and it is not reasonable to take higher risks than what suits you, just to beat inflation.

Moreover, the inflation data that we react to, is one data point across 140 crore people, whereas everybody's consumption basket is unique.

> if your appropriate portfolio allocation is 60% equity and 40% debt, it should not be 100% equity when inflation is high

Present scenario

Cut back to present. The situation has improved palpably, and is expected to improve further. In the pandemic phase of 2020, and to an extent in 2021 as well, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had kept interest rates on the lower side.

This was done to support the economy, which was hit by lockdowns, global growth slowdown and supply chain disruptions.

The rationale is, when interest rates are low, people are induced to take loans, which are used for some kind of activity which moves the wheels of the economy.

Interest rates are signalled by the RBI through a rate called repo rate, which was reduced to all-time low of 4%. Now that things have normalised, RBI is normalising the interest rates. The repo rate was increased by 2.25% to 6.25% till the review on December 7, 2022. The next review meeting is round the corner, scheduled for February 8, 2023, and there is a possibility of repo rate being increased to 6.5%. Subsequent to the RBI signalling increasing interest rates through an increase in repo rate, interest rates on deposit products have moved up.

A one-year deposit with the State Bank of India (SBI) offers 6.75% for regular deposits and 7.25% for senior citizens. There are other banks offering higher rates of return.

Small savings rates, popularly known as post office schemes, have been increased for the quarter January to March 2023.

One-year Time Deposit rate is now 6.6% from 5.5% earlier. Senior Citizens Savings Scheme now yields 8% against 7.6% earlier. Monthly Income Scheme

> If you have the risk appetite for 100% equity in your portfolio, it should be 100% any which way, even when inflation was low

rate has been pushed up to 7.1% from 6.7%.

On the other hand, inflation has eased. In 2020, average consumer inflation was 6.63% due to supply side disruptions.

In 2021, inflation eased as the base for computation of inflation in 2021 i.e. inflation in 2020, was high. In 2021, consumer inflation averaged 5.14%.

However, average inflation in 2022 was 6.70%. Then, how are we saying that inflation has eased? In April 2022, CPI inflation was 7.79%. In December 2022, it had eased to 5.72%.

Moreover, as per RBI projections, consumer inflation is expected to average 5.8% in January to March 2023 and ease further to 5% in April to June 2023. That is, from the high point of 7.79% in April 2022, it had eased to 5.72% in December 2022 and is expected to ease further to 5% by June 2023.

Going by the recent data points and projections, real returns on deposits have become positive.

Fresh deposits

What should be your strategy? If you want to optimise on the relatively higher deposit rates available now, obviously fresh deposits will be at a higher rate than a year or two ago.

If you are thinking of exiting earlier deposits at lower rates and move on to relatively higher rates, you have to look at two aspects.

One, whether the existing one is liquid or there is any condition for withdrawal. Two, if there is any premature withdrawal penalty – in that case it may not be optimal to shift. Irrespective of the variables like return on your investments, and inflation data prints, the basics of constructing your investment portfolio remain the same. The primary aspects on which your investment portfolio should be based are your investment objectives, financial goals, time horizon, risk appetite and the risk-return profile of the investments.

Your portfolio allocation should not be distorted by inflation data.

As an illustration, if your appropriate portfolio allocation is 60% equity and 40% debt, it should not be 100% equity when inflation is high.

If you have the risk appetite for 100% equity in your portfolio, it should be 100% any which way, even when inflation is low. What is in your control is your investment portfolio. That should be based on proper, logical criteria that you are clear about.

(The writer is a corporate trainer and author)

Bank Fixed Deposit Rates

Bank Name	Interest Rates (%) Highest Slab	1-year Tenure	3-year Tenure	5-year Tenure
Small Finance Banks				
AU Small Finance Bank	7.75	6.10	7.75	7.20
Capital Small Finance Bank	7.50	7.10	7.10	7.10
Equitas Small Finance Bank	8.00	7.50	7.75	7.00
ESAF Small Finance Bank	8.00	5.50	5.75	5.25
Fincare Small Finance Bank	8.00	7.25	7.00	7.00
Jana Small Finance Bank	8.10	7.25	8.10	7.25
Suryoday Small Finance Bank	8.51	7.00	7.25	6.75
Ujjivan Small Finance Bank	8.00	6.50	7.20	7.20
Utkarsh Small Finance Bank	8.00	7.50	7.50	7.50
Private Sector Banks				
Axis Bank	7.26	6.75	7.00	7.00
Bandhan Bank	7.50	7.25	7.25	5.85
CSB Bank	7.50	5.00	5.75	5.75
DBS Bank	7.25	6.25	6.50	6.50
DCB Bank	7.85	7.25	7.85	7.60
HDFC Bank	7.00	6.60	7.00	7.00
ICICI Bank	7.00	6.60	7.00	7.00
IDFC First Bank	7.50	6.75	7.50	7.00
IndusInd Bank	7.50	7.00	7.50	7.25
Karnataka Bank	7.30	6.80	5.75	5.75
Karur Vysya Bank	7.25	6.50	7.00	6.25
Kotak Mahindra Bank	7.00	6.75	6.50	6.20
Nainital Bank	7.05	6.60	6.25	5.75
RBL Bank	7.80	7.00	7.00	7.00
SBM Bank India	7.75	7.05	7.30	7.75
South Indian Bank	7.40	6.60	6.50	6.00
TMB	7.25	6.75	6.50	6.50
Public Sector Banks				
Bank of Baroda	7.05	6.75	6.75	6.25
Bank of India	7.05	6.00	6.50	6.00
Bank of Maharashtra	7.00	6.15	6.00	5.75
Canara Bank	7.15	6.75	6.50	6.50
Indian Bank	7.00	6.10	6.25	6.25
Indian Overseas Bank	7.00	6.40	6.50	6.50
Punjab National Bank	7.25	6.75	6.75	6.50
Punjab & Sind Bank	7.25	6.25	6.25	6.25
State Bank of India	6.75	6.75	6.25	6.25
Union Bank of India	7.30	6.30	7.30	6.70
Foreign Banks				
Citibank	7.77	7.25	3.50	3.50
Deutsche Bank	7.50	6.75	7.50	7.50

Rates as on February 1 Source:Paisabazaar.com

Home Loan Interest Rates

Name of Lender	Loan Amount (Rs.) Upto 30 lakh	Above 30 lakh & upto 75 lakh	Above 75 lakh
			(In %)
Public Sector Banks			
State Bank of India**	8.60-9.50	8.60-9.40	8.60-9.40
Bank of Baroda	8.60-10.35	8.60-10.35	8.60-10.60
Union Bank of India	8.60-10.50	8.60-10.70	8.60-10.70
Punjab National Bank	8.60-9.35	8.55-9.25	8.55-9.25
Bank of India	8.60-10.60	8.60-10.60	8.60-10.60
Canara Bank	8.90-13.70	8.90-13.70	8.90-13.70
UCO Bank	8.75-9.75	8.75-9.75	8.75-9.75
Punjab and Sind Bank	8.60-9.70	8.60-9.70	8.60-9.70
Indian Overseas Bank	9.30-10.70	8.60 onwards	8.60 onwards
Indian Bank	8.50-10.15	8.50-10.15	8.50-10.15
Private Sector Banks			
Kotak Mahindra Bank	8.65 onwards	8.65 onwards	8.65 onwards
ICICI Bank	8.75-9.85	8.75-9.85	8.75-9.85
Axis Bank	8.75-12.70	8.75-12.70	8.75-9.15
HSBC Bank	8.55 onwards	8.55 onwards	8.55 onwards
South Indian Bank	9.60-12.35	9.60-12.35	9.60-12.35
Karur Vysya Bank	8.95-11.85	8.95-11.85	8.95-11.85
Karnataka Bank	8.95-10.12	8.95-10.12	8.95-10.22
Federal Bank	9.90-9.95	9.95-10.00	10.00-10.05
Dhanlaxmi Bank	9.15-10.30	9.15-10.30	9.15-10.30
Tamilnad Mercantile Bank	8.75-9.25	8.75-9.25	8.75-9.25
Bandhan Bank	8.65-14.00	8.65-14.00	8.65-14.00
RBL Bank	8.90-11.30	8.85-11.05	8.85-11.05
CSB Bank	9.69	9.69	9.94
Housing Finance Companies (HFCs)			
LIC Housing Finance	8.65-10.10	8.65-10.30	8.65-10.50
HDFC Ltd.	8.65-10.35	8.65-10.60	8.65-10.70
Bajaj Housing Finance	8.75 onwards	8.75 onwards	8.70 onwards
Tata Capital	8.95 onwards	8.95 onwards	8.95 onwards
PNB Housing Finance	8.50-14.50	8.50-13.00	8.50-10.85
GIC Housing Finance	8.45 onwards	8.45 onwards	8.45 onwards
Repco Home Finance	9.25 onwards	9.25 onwards	9.25 onwards
Aditya Birla Capital	8.75-14.50	8.75-14.50	8.75-14.50
ICICI Home Finance	9.20 onwards	9.20 onwards	9.20 onwards
Godrej Housing Finance	8.64 onwards	8.64 onwards	8.64 onwards

**Concession of 0.10% on the applicable interest rates for Shaurya and Shaurya Flexi Home Loans

Rates as on February 2 Source:Paisabazaar.com

Enjoy now or later?

THINKINVESTOR

It is not optimal to postpone consumption in the initial years of retirement so that one can spend more in the later years... spend more in the initial years and don't run out of money in the later part

Venkatesh Bangaruswamy

Retirement income portfolio is created at retirement using the wealth that an individual accumulates in her retirement portfolio during her working life. This includes investments in provident fund, public provident fund, and national pension scheme. This week, we discuss whether retirees must spend more during their early years of retirement or in the later years.

Longevity insurance?

Imagine that a friend has gifted you a box of assorted cookies. Will you eat your favourite cookie first or last? For most, the answer would be last. Looking forward to a vacation often gives us more satisfaction than the vacation itself. Saving your favourite cookie for the last would, therefore, not be surprising. You cannot apply the same logic to retirement spending. That is, it is not optimal to postpone consumption in the initial years of retirement so that an individual can spend more in the later years. Why? For one, poor health can prevent an individual from enjoying travelling or fine dining in later years. For another, the individual can meet with an untimely demise. The amount in the retirement income portfolio will then unintentionally pass on to the legal heirs. The point then is to spend more in the initial years of retirement and yet not run out of money in the later years. What should an individual do? The answer is to look for a product that has features of longevity insurance. This is an annuity contract available in the U.S. An individual buys the contract from an insurance company at retirement that will pay a fixed sum of money from, say, age 75, till the person lives. This allows the individual to spend the rest of her retirement money from retirement till age 75 without increasing longevity risk – the risk of outliving her investments. The flip-side is that the legal heirs will not get any payment from the insurance company if the person buying the annuity fails to survive his/her 75th birthday.

Conclusion

A common alternative for retirees in India is monthly income deposits. These bank deposits pay stable income and can be renewed typically after 10 years at which time interest rates could be lower. This means higher cash flows during early years of retirement and lower cash flows during the later years. Importantly, it fits with the behavioural needs of retirees who are comfortable consuming income and not capital. It also allows retirees to intentionally transfer money (the deposit amount) to their legal heirs after their lifetime.

(The author offers training programmes for individuals to manage their personal investments)

The journey back was full of ups and downs, says Jadeja

'The period after the surgery was pretty difficult because I had to continuously do rehab and training; when I saw the games on television, I wished I was there and the motivation of donning the India jersey kept me going'

Feeling blessed: Jadeja says he's excited and happy to wear the India whites again. FILE PHOTO

AUSTRALIA IN INDIA

Press Trust of India
NAGPUR

All-rounder Ravindra Jadeja, who will return to action after nearly five months, feels he is blessed to wear the India jersey again after recovering from a career-threatening knee injury which forced him to miss the ICC T20 World Cup in Australia last year.

"I am very excited and happy that after more than five months I get to wear the Indian jersey again. I am blessed to be given an opportunity again and the journey back was full of ups and downs. If you are not playing cricket for five months, it becomes very frustrating. Obviously I was eagerly waiting to get fit as soon as possible and play for India again," Jadeja told *BCCI.tv* in an interview.

Jadeja said it was a difficult decision whether to undergo surgery before or after the World Cup, and he followed the doctor's instructions in the end.

"I had a problem with my knee and I had to get a surgery done sooner or later. I had to decide whether to have it before the World Cup or after. The doctor advised me to do it before the World Cup because my chances of playing were pretty less anyway. So I made up my mind and went for the surgery," explained Jadeja.

He said the period after the surgery was really difficult, but the motivation of donning the India jersey again kept him going.

"The period after the surgery was pretty difficult because you have to continuously do rehab and training. You keep getting thoughts in your head about your fitness. When I saw the games on television, like when I was watching the World Cup, I wished I was there. Those small things motivate you to speed up the recovery process," said Jadeja.

"The physios and trainers at the NCA worked a lot on my knee. Even when the Academy was closed on Sundays, they would come and specially treat me.

"The two months after the injury were particularly tough because I couldn't go anywhere, I couldn't walk properly. That was a critical time and that's when my family and friends stood by my side. The NCA trainers also boosted my confidence," revealed Jadeja.

Jadeja was finally back on the field in January, representing Saurashtra in a Ranji Trophy game against Tamil Nadu in Chennai.

"I felt a bit awkward because I hadn't been out in the sun for five months. I was doing indoor training and when I went to the middle, I was thinking if my body could take it.

"The first day was very tough and we all know about Chennai's heat. Then my body got acclimatised to the conditions and I felt fit and good," he said.

Jadeja will be pumped up for the Border-Gavaskar Trophy series which begins on February 9.

The schedule: Feb. 9 to 13, Nagpur; **Feb. 17 to 21**, New Delhi; **March 1 to 5**, Dharamsala; **March 9 to 13**, Ahmedabad.

Injured Hazlewood set to miss first Test, doubtful for second

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Recovering from an Achilles injury, Australia pacer Josh Hazlewood is set to miss the opening Test against India in Nagpur and also remains a doubtful starter for the second game in Delhi.

The 32-year-old had sustained the injury on his left leg after bowling in the rain-affected Sydney Test against South Africa last month.

"Not sure about the first Test. It's still a few days away but it's sneaking up pretty quickly," Hazlewood was quoted as saying by *Cricbuzz* before Australia's final session at the KSCA Stadium in the outskirts of Bengaluru on Sunday.

"Second one is obviously straight after as well. So, we'll play it by ear over the next week and next few days and hopefully Tuesday goes well," added the pacer, who is likely to have his first bowl in Nagpur on Tuesday.

The opening Test begins on February 9 and if he misses out, Scott Boland might get his first overseas Test. Australia is already without Mitchell Starc for the first Test as the pacer is nursing a finger injury.

Hazlewood... still recovering from Achilles injury. FILE PHOTO

"Just a bit of workload management at the moment. Just managing the Achilles. I was bowling a fair bit leading into the tour at home and sort of just pushing up against it," Hazlewood said.

"I wasn't recovering as well as I would have liked between each session and thought I would give it a few days here and try and get over the hump."

Maiden Test ton for Tagenarine; Brathwaite on song too

Agence France-Presse
BULAWAYO

Tagenarine Chanderpaul struck his first Test century and fellow opener Kraigg Brathwaite also reached three figures as the West Indies reached 221 without loss on Sunday after a rain-affected second day of the first Test against Zimbabwe here.

Captain Brathwaite recorded his 12th Test ton as he made 116 while Chanderpaul closed on 101.

It is the highest opening partnership by West Indians since Chris Gayle and Kieran Powell scored 254 against New Zealand in Antigua 11 years ago.

Saturday's play had been abandoned because of rain soon after lunch with the tourists 112-0 and the inclement weather intervened again.

Play was only able to start at 3 p.m. local time on Sunday after sawdust had been scattered across the damp areas in the outfield.

The scores: West Indies 221/0 in 89 overs (Kraigg Brathwaite 116 batting, Tagenarine Chanderpaul 101 batting) vs Zimbabwe.

Sportstar's East Conclave promises illuminating sessions

Sports Bureau

The *Sportstar* Conclave caravan is set to make its first stop of 2023 in Kolkata. Sourav Ganguly, Leander Paes and Jhulan Goswami are among the reputed panellists who will feature in the first-ever East Sports Conclave on Monday. The day-long event will address key issues pertaining to the sports ecosystem in the region.

The Conclave is being held in association with Hero We Care – a Hero Motocorp CSR Initiative, Indian Oil, Shiv-Naresh, Rau's IAS Study Circle, Pinnacle Infotech, Maithan Alloys Ltd, Merlin Group, SRMB, Techno India Group's Sister Nivedita University and Indian Bank. It can be followed live on *sportstar.thehindu.com*.

The topics and speakers:

Duare Sports: Inaugural address by Aroop Biswas, Hon'ble Sports Minister of West Bengal, on **taking sports to the masses.**

Rich legacy, promising future: Sourav Ganguly, former India captain and former BCCI president, on **sports in Bengal.**

Bengal's sporting dreams: Dola Banerjee (archery Olympian), Gurbux Singh (hockey Olympic gold medallist) and Dibyendu Barua (chess Grandmaster) will be the panellists.

From Kolkata to Atlanta: Leander Paes (Olympic bronze medallist in tennis) on **creating future Olympic champions.**

From Maidans to ISL: Debasish Dutta (Director, ATK Mohun Bagan), Dipendu Biswas (Technical Director, Mohammedan Sporting), Debabrata Sarkar (Director, Emami East Bengal) and Anirban Dutta (Secretary, IFA) on **the road ahead for Kolkata football.**

Role of traditional clubs in sports promotion: Jaidip Mukerjea (former Davis Cup Captain), Deepankar Nandi (President, CC&FC), Indrajit Bhalotia (former National golf champion) and Chandan Roy Chowdhury (Secretary, Calcutta Rowing Club) will figure in the session.

Catch them young: Dr. Ramanuj Ganguly (President, West Bengal Board of Secondary Education, Richard Gasper (Principal and Director, St Augustine's School), Sanjib Sinha (Deputy Commissioner, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan), Sushil Mohta (Chairman, Merlin Group) on **how to revolutionise school and college sports.**

Cricket — a promising future: Jhulan Goswami (former India captain), Avishek Dalmiya (IPL Governing Council member) and Saradindu Mukherjee (former India cricketer and coach) will be part of the discussion.

Record-breaking Kane fires Spurs past City; Napoli goes 16 clear at the top of Serie A

On cloud nine: Kane is all pumped up after going past Greaves' tally for Tottenham that had stood since 1970. REUTERS

EURO LEAGUES

Agencies
LONDON

Manchester City's bid to chop Arsenal's Premier League lead to two points was scuppered as Harry Kane's record-breaking goal earned Tottenham Hotspur a 1-0 won over the champions on Sunday.

Kane's 15th-minute effort punished some sloppy City defending and made him the north London club's all-time top goalscorer with 267, taking him past former great Jimmy Greaves whose record had stood since 1970.

It was a strike even fans of Tottenham's arch-rivals Arsenal would have celebrated down the road as it helped Mikel Arteta's side stay five points clear despite Saturday's shock loss at Everton.

A 13th minute own-goal from stand-in skipper Nacho condemned defending LaLiga champion Real Madrid to another damaging defeat, this time a 1-0 result away to Mallorca.

Real's hopes of a comeback were practically snuffed out in the second half when Marco Asension missed from the spot with a poorly taken penalty.

Victor Osimhen and Khvicha Kvaratskhelia were again the stars of the show for Napoli as the Serie A leader won 3-0 at Spezia to extend its advantage to a whopping 16 points.

Wing wizard Kvaratskhelia put Napoli ahead from the penalty spot two minutes after the break on the Italian Riviera before Osimhen netted twice, taking his league tally to 16.

Nigeria forward Osimhen pounced on a defensive error to double Napoli's lead in the 68th minute and five minutes later rolled home an easy finish after Mattia Caldara passed straight to Kvaratskhelia on the edge of his own area.

The results: Premier League: Nottingham Forest 1 (Johnson 14) bt Leeds 0; Tottenham 1 (Kane 15) bt Manchester City 0.

LaLiga: Mallorca 1 (Nacho 13-og) bt Real Madrid 0.

Serie A: Spezia 0 lost to Napoli 3 (Kvaratskhelia 47, Osimhen 68, 73).

Bundesliga: Wolfsburg 2 (Kaminski 44, Svanberg 80) lost to Bayern Munich 4 (Coman 9, Coman 14, Muller 19, Musiala 73).

On Saturday: LaLiga: Atletico Madrid 1 (Correa 60) drew with Getafe 1 (Unal 83-pen); Real Betis 3 (Juanmi 9, Canales 23, Fekir 84-pen) lost to Celta Vigo 4 (Larsen 6, Veiga 42, 56, Aidoo 69).

Serie A: Roma 2 (Ibanez 2, Abraham 6) bt Empoli 0; Sassuolo 1 (Lauriente 55) bt Atalanta 0.

Hernandez, Krishna strike; BFC enters top six

The turnaround: Hernandez found the breakthrough despite ATK MB's best efforts. FOCUS SPORTS/ISL

ISL-9

Y.B. Sarangi
KOLKATA

Bengaluru FC defeated ATK Mohun Bagan 2-1 in a thrilling encounter to record its fifth consecutive win and enter the top-six of the Indian Super League here on Sunday.

A brilliant 78th minute goal from Javi Hernandez saw BFC draw first blood before Roy Krishna's strike in added time made it 2-0. ATK MB scored a consolation goal through Dimitrios Petratos in the closing minutes of the game.

The first half witnessed an end-to-end battle as both sides tried to find a breakthrough. The Kolkata giant, which explored options on both flanks, looked more threatening.

Apart from supplying the ball upfield, defender Asish Rai twice came close to scoring but was thwarted by BFC custodian Gurpreet Singh.

After a few chances were missed by the teams in the second half, Roshan Singh's back pass from the left found Hernandez, who unleashed a thundering left-footer into the right corner to put the visitors in front. The second goal was a gift for BFC as ATK MB 'keeper Vishal Kaith fumbled while saving a shot from Pablo Perez and Krishna was at hand to completed the formalities.

The goal evoked a smile from Sunil Chhetri in the bench before he made an appearance on the field.

Petratos' long-range left-footer was deflected off BFC defender Alan Costa's head into the goal, but it was too little too late as ATK MB suffered its third reverse at home this season and remained fourth.

The result: ATK MB 1 (Petratos 90+3) lost to Bengaluru FC 2 (Hernandez 78, Krishna 90+1).

Gritty Heroes get past Meteors

PVL

Sports Bureau

Calicut Heroes beat debutant Mumbai Meteors 4-1 on Sunday in its first game of the second season of the Prime Volleyball League.

Much to the delight of a packed crowd at the Koramangala Indoor Stadium in Bengaluru, the Heroes came back to register an exciting 10-15, 15-9, 15-8, 15-14, 15-11 win over the Mumbai team.

After fortunes fluctuated for much of the first set, it was Meteors who eventually won it. However, the Heroes, powered by player-of-the-match Jose Antonio Sandoval, capitalised on the errors from the Meteors and remained composed to seal the other four closely fought sets and begin their campaign in style. After helping his team fight back, Sandoval became more threatening as the game progressed

While the Meteors can take solace in having stretched the Heroes in every set, the Calicut outfit will be happy that it limited the points conceded and kept its nerve during the key moments of the game.

Ahmedabad Defenders meets Hyderabad Black Hawks on Monday.

Sandoval... doing it for Heroes. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

INBRIEF

Babar, Afridi moved to safety after explosion near stadium

Top Pakistan cricketers, including current captain Babar Azam and former skipper Shahid Afridi, were taken to the safety of the dressing room on Sunday after a terror attack close to the Nawab Akbar Bugti Stdaium in Quetta where they were playing in an exhibition match. The game was organised by the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) after pressure from Baloch fans that Quetta should also be a venue for the Pakistan Super League (PSL). The stadium was packed for the match and five were injured in the attack.

Lin and Zhang triumph in Thailand Masters badminton

Chinese Taipei's Lin Chun-yi and China's Zhang Yiman claimed the men's and women's singles titles in the Thailand Masters badminton tournament in Bangkok on Sunday. While the unseeded Lin upset fourth seed Angus NG Ka Long of Hong Kong 21-17, 21-14, seventh-seeded Zhang rallied to get the better of compatriot Han Yue, seeded fourth, 15-21, 21-13, 21-18.

Tanya takes honours in Iran Fajr International Challenge

India's Tanya Hemanth scored a facile win over compatriot Tasnim Mir to claim the women's singles title in the Iran Fajr International Challenge 2023 badminton tournament at Tehran on Sunday. Tanya, seeded second behind Tasnim, got the better of the latter 21-7, 21-11 in 30 minutes to claim the top prize of $1,300. Tasnim took home $650.

Aditi holds a six-shot lead, inches closer to one more title

Aditi Ashok moved closer to her fourth Ladies European Tour win as she fired a bogey-free round of 4-under 69 to hold a six shot lead heading into the final round of the Magical Kenya Ladies Open. On the third day of action at Vipingo Ridge, the two-time Olympian had a steady start before rolling in back-to-back birdies on the fifth and six holes. Avani Prashanth shot 73 and moved up to tied 19th place, while Amandeep Drall (83) slipped to tied 53rd. Thailand's April Angurasaranee sits in second place on the leader board on seven-under-par after shooting a round of 3-under 70 on day three.

Bangladesh holds India in SAFF U-20 women's c'ship

After a fabulous start to its SAFF U-20 women's championship campaign, India was held to a goalless draw by Bangladesh in Dhaka on Sunday. It was a close contest from the opening exchanges, with India creating more chances despite a deluge of midfield traffic. Shubhangi Singh was accurate with her set-pieces, and thought she had helped India take the lead on the half-hour mark, when Kajol tapped her delivery in, but the referee had deemed the delivery to have gone out of play before curling in. Anita Kumari, Tania Kanti, and Babina Lisham were soon introduced into the fray with the clock ticking down, but the two sides remained locked till the end.

LIVE TELECAST

KIYG 2023: Star Sports 3, DD Sports, Hotstar & FanCode, 10 a.m. onwards

West Indies vs Zimbabwe: 1st Test, day 3, FanCode, 1.30 p.m.

PVL: Sony Sports Ten 1, 2, 3 (SD & HD) & LIV, 7 p.m.

ISL: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7.30 p.m.

Serie A: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 1.15 a.m. (Tuesday)

LaLiga: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 1.30 a.m. (Tuesday)

We will focus on the Pakistan game, not the WPL auction: Harmanpreet

India skipper says players are mature enough & know what is important; she hopes women's T20 league will contribute to the growth of cricket

ICC WOMEN'S T20 WC

Press Trust of India
CAPE TOWN

The Women's Premier League auction is just round the corner but India is firmly focused on its T20 World Cup opener against Pakistan as it aims to emulate the under-19 girls' title-winning feat, insisted skipper Harmanpreet Kaur.

The WPL auction is slated for February 13 in Mumbai, a day after India's match against Pakistan. "Before that [the auction], we have a very important game and we are just going to focus on that," said Harmanpreet at the captains' interaction. "The World Cup is more important than anything else and our focus is on the ICC trophy. These things will keep coming and as a player you know what's important for you and how you need to keep focus. We are all mature enough and know what is important for us."

The India skipper hoped that the WPL will play a role in contributing to the growth of Indian women's cricket like the Women's Big Bash League in Australia and The Hundred in England.

"Playing in the WPL will be a really big day for all of us because we have been waiting for years. The next two to three months are very important for women's cricket. We have seen how the WBBL and The Hundred have helped their countries improve their game. Hopefully, the same will happen for our country," said Harmanpreet.

Having played in the Kia Super League, WBBL and The Hundred, Harmanpreet is keen to see the Indian youngsters get an opportunity to rub shoulders with international stars.

"That is something which has a very different feeling. When I got that chance, it was a life-changing moment. The other girls should also experience it. It will be a great opportunity to improve cricket and grow the game," said Harmanpreet.

Top priority: Harmanpreet feels that the World Cup is bigger than anything else. FILE PHOTO: EMMANUAL YOGINI

Mirra claims the prestigious Indian Derby

Proud champion: Ameeta Mehra, right, trainer Arjun Manglorkar, second from left, and Allen Singh, representing Usha Stud Farm, leading in the Indian Derby winner Mirra (Antony Raj up). EMMANUAL YOGINI

MUMBAI: Miss Ameeta Mehra's champion filly Mirra, piloted by Antony Raj S, won the Indian Derby (Gr.1), here on Sunday. The winner is trained by Arjun Manglorkar.

Mirra, who was racing comfortably in the eighth position throughout the trip, improved to sixth at the bend before Antony put the daughter of Speaking of Which-Myrtlewood into top gear.

She quickly took the lead and fought a close battle to overcome the challenge from King's Ransom and win by a length.

The Usha Stud Farm was established by Maj. P.K. Mehra in 1973 and Ameeta Mehra, who continues her father's legacy, not only achieved a 15th Indian Derby win for the farm but the first four horses in the race were also bred at the farm!

Tejaswin claims high jump gold in Boston

ATHLETICS

Press Trust of India
BOSTON

Indian high jumper Tejaswin Shankar overcame a strong challenge from former world champion and Commonwealth Games gold medallist Donald Thomas of the Bahamas to win the top position in the New Balance Indoor Grand Prix here.

The 24-year-old Delhi-born athlete leapt 2.26 metres as he pushed the 2007 World Championships and 2010 CWG gold medallist, 38-year-old Thomas, to second spot. The Bahamian had a best jump of 2.23 metres.

Crowd support

Encouraged by the crowd, Tejaswin, winner of the 2022 Birmingham Commonwealth Games bronze medal, cleared 2.14, 2.19, 2.23 and 2.26 metres on his first four attempts.

Winning jump: Tejaswin overcame a strong challenge from former world champion Donald Thomas. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Tejaswin, who who won his second NCAA title for Kansas State last year and was taking part in his first competition since finishing college, took three attempts at a would-be personal best of 2.30 metres but failed.

He has a personal best outdoor jump of 2.29 metres, a national record, while his best leap in an indoor meet is 2.28 metres, achieved in 2018 in Lubbock and Ames respectively.

Darryl Sullivan of the USA notched up his season-best leap of 2.19m to finish third in the four-man field.

Tejaswin took to social media to share a video of his gold-winning leap and tweeted, "Great start to the new year! Excited to be able to compete with the top guys; season opener."

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

5C SC blanks JFHA

5C Sports Club blanked JFHA 3-0 in the KSHA Super Division hockey league here on Sunday.

The results: 5C Sports Club 3 (Anand 12, Arvind 26, Abbas 46) bt JFHA 0.

KSLTA enters into deal with HEAD

The Karnataka State Lawn Tennis Association (KSLTA) has entered into a strategic alliance with tennis racquet brand, HEAD. The partnership aims to support tennis players from Karnataka and tournaments hosted by KSLTA.

As part of the agreement, HEAD, endorsed by some of the biggest names in tennis, including Alexander Zverev and Novak Djokovic, will partner with the Junior Development Programme run by KSLTA.

HEAD will provide equipment to a total of 20 deserving players from three different age categories. The brand will also conduct an annual tennis clinic where international players from HEAD will share their experiences and tips with juniors, support KSLTA events with tennis balls, and hold an annual Coach Affiliation/Coaches Education Programme.

The company and its online partner, Racquets4u will provide special discounts on HEAD products to 50 top state tennis players. HEAD has also agreed to provide the support staff including referees, umpires, court supervisors and ball boys with clothing.

Ashu wins 67kg bronze while other Indians falter

WRESTLING

Press Trust of India
ZAGREB

Asian Championships bronze medallist Ashu clinched the 67kg bronze medal for India in the Greco Roman category on the concluding day of the Zagreb Open Ranking Series here on Sunday.

The 23-year-old grappler added a second bronze to India's tally, defeating Lithuania's Adomas Grigaliunas 5-0. Under-23 world champion, freestyle wrestler Aman Sehrawat, had won the men's 57kg bronze on the inaugural day.

Another Indian Greco-Roman wrestler Sagar lost his 63kg repechage round to Austria's Aker Schmid Al Obaidi after his quarterfinal rival, Iran's Aref Hossein Khoun Mohammadi, entered the final.

In other bouts Samantha Stewart got the better of India's Asian Championships bronze medallist Sushma Shokeen with the Canadian effecting a fall in the the women's 53kg quarterfinal.

Rajendra crowned MRF MoGrip National Rally champ

Triumphant ride: Rajendra who won the 2022 National Rally title. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

MOTORSPORTS

Sports Bureau

Petronas TVS Racing team's R.E. Rajendra took the 2022 title in the Super Bikes Pro-Expert class winning the Rally of Nashik as the sixth and final round of the MRF MoGrip FMSCI National Rally Championship for two-wheelers concluded on Sunday.

Veteran Venu Ramesh Kumar clinched the title in Super Sport 400cc Group B Class 5. 5. TVS Racing star Shamim Khan, astride a NTorq, won the scooter class crown.

National Rally Championship title winners (provisional): Class 1: Super Bike Pro-Expert: R.E. Rajendra. **Class 1A: Super Bike Expert Group A:** Sarath Mohan. **Class 2: Super Sport 130cc Group B:** Chalass K. Bose; **Class 3: Super Sport 165cc Group B:** K. Sasi Kumar K; **Class 4: Super Sport 260cc Group B:** J. Imran Pasha. **Class 5: Super Sport 400cc Group B:** Venu Ramesh Kumar. **Class 6: Super Sport 550cc Group B:** V.S. Naresh. **Class 7: Group B Ladies Class:** Aishwarya Pissay (TVS). **Class 8: Group B Scooters upto 210cc:** Shamim Khan.

Neroca stuns Gokulam, Sudeva holds RoundGlass

I-LEAGUE

Agencies
IMPHAL

Despite not playing Sreenidi Deccan was the biggest winner on Sunday when its two closest rivals dropped valuable points away from home in the I-League.

After Round Glass Punjab was held for a 1-1 draw by a late equaliser from Sudeva Delhi, Gokulam Kerala suffered a 2-1 loss to Neroca FC.

Neroca went into this game with back-to-back wins at home, and yet was unfancied against an opposition which has been on an upward curve at the business end of the season.

Unbowed by pregame expectations, the home side started much stronger, its midfield asserting dominance in a way that Gokulam had previously not been subjected to.

The results: At Imphal: Neroca FC 2 (Sweden Fernades, Mirjalol Kasimov) bt Gokulam Kerala 1 (Bouba Aminou).

At Delhi: Sudeva Delhi 1 (Sujit Sadhu) drew with RoundGlass Punjab 1 (Majcen).

Charlotte to coach MI; Jhulan is mentor

Agence France-Presse
MUMBAI

Mumbai Indians on Sunday named England's Charlotte Edwards as chief coach of its Women's Premier League team.

The franchise also announced Jhulan Goswami as the team's mentor and bowling coach and Devika Palshikaar as batting coach.